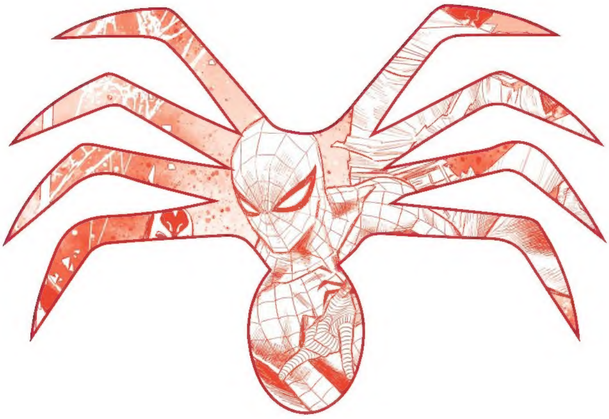
ULTIMATE

MARVEL

July 2025
December 2025

Ultimate Spider-Man 19-23
Ultimate Black Panther 18-23
Ultimate X-Men 17-22
The Ultimates 14-19
Ultimate Wolverine 7-12
Two Years In



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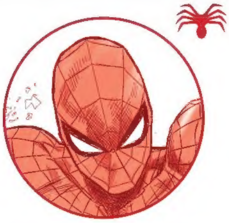
Twenty years ago, **THE MAKER** prevented a radioactive spider from biting a young **PETER PARKER**. He likewise prevented the creation of any other super heroes and formed a secret council to rule the world from the shadows.

Eighteen months ago, **TONY STARK** sent Peter that same radioactive spider along with a picotech suit. Since then, Peter has used the incredible powers granted by the spider's bite to fight crime alongside **GREEN GOBLIN,** A.K.A. **HARRY OSBORN**, co-C.E.O. of **OSCORP**.

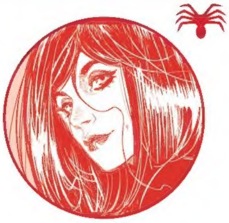
Turns out Harry's wife, **GWEN STACY**, is also **MYSTERIO**—one of the **SINISTER SIX** who rule New York. But after the Sinister Six kidnapped Peter and Harry, Gwen betrayed them. Peter's family went on the run for protection, but Harry called the Parkers back to help him and Gwen wage war on **KINGPIN** and his allies. Little did they know, Peter's son, **RICHARD**, had been lured into Kingpin's trap by the **BLACK CAT**...

ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN

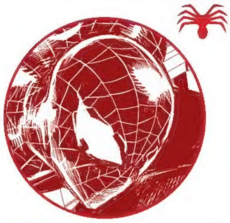
CAST:



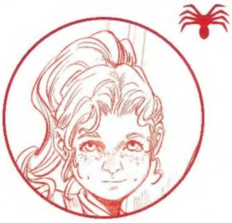
PETER PARKER
SPIDER-MAN



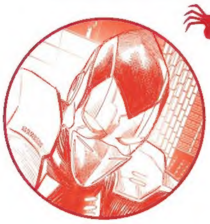
MJ WATSON-PARKER
PR GURU



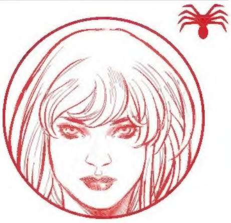
RICHARD PARKER
PETER AND MJ'S SON



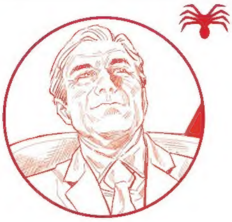
MAY PARKER
PETER AND MJ'S DAUGHTER



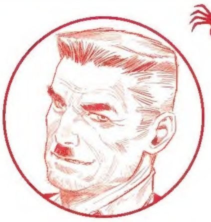
HARRY OSBORN
GREEN GOBLIN



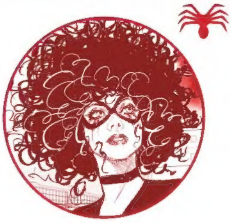
GWEN STACY
HARRY'S WIFE, MYSTERIO



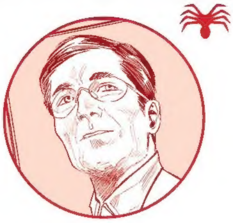
BEN PARKER
PETER'S UNCLE



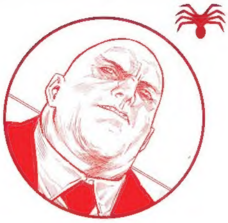
J. JONAH JAMESON
BEN'S BUSINESS PARTNER



FELICIA HARDY
BLACK CAT

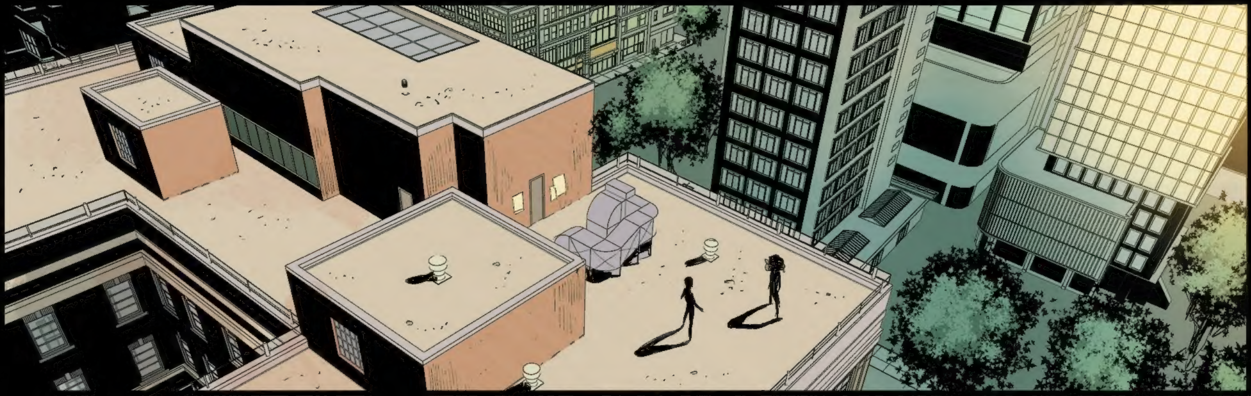


JAMES WESLEY
KINGPIN'S AIDE, MYSTERIO

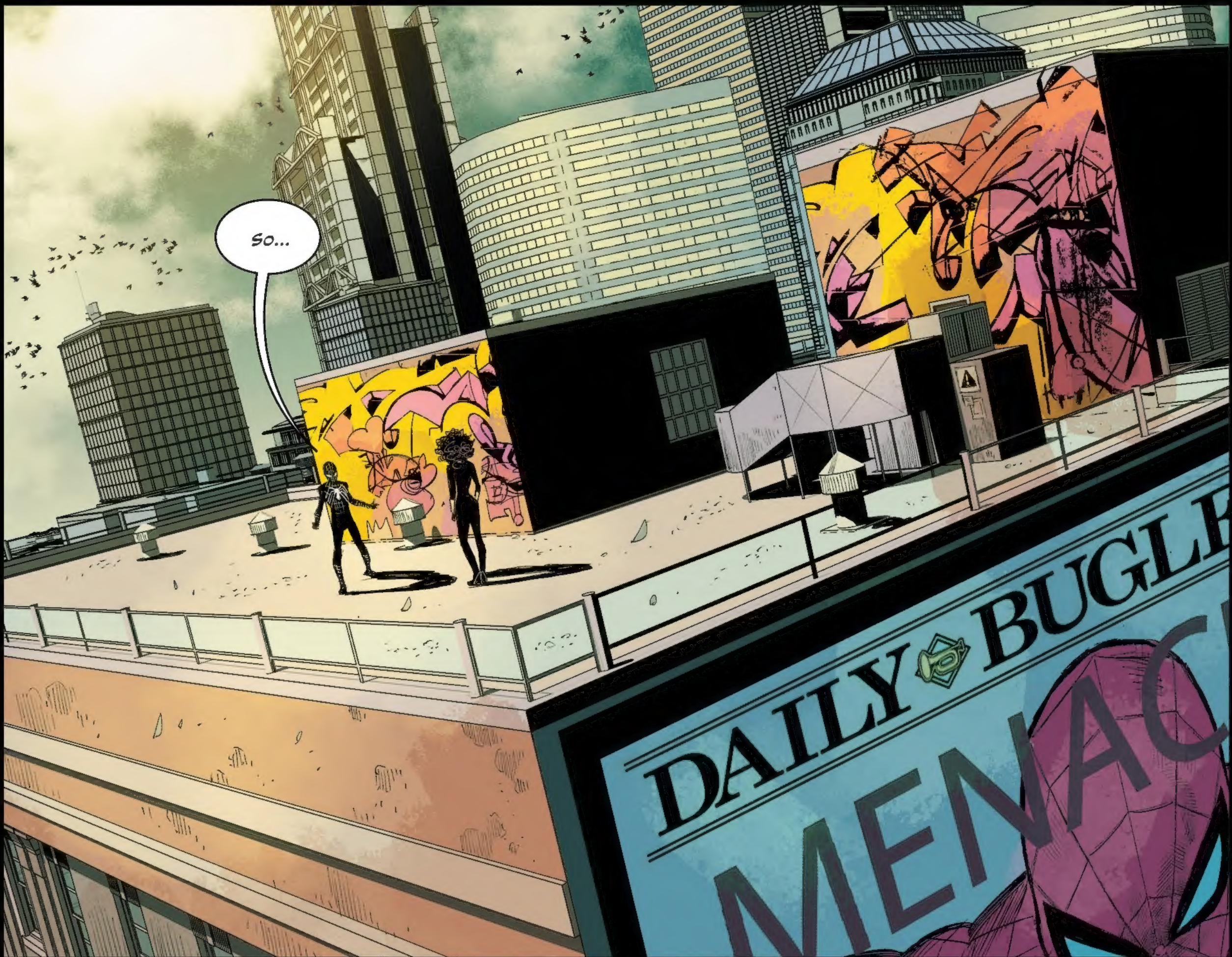


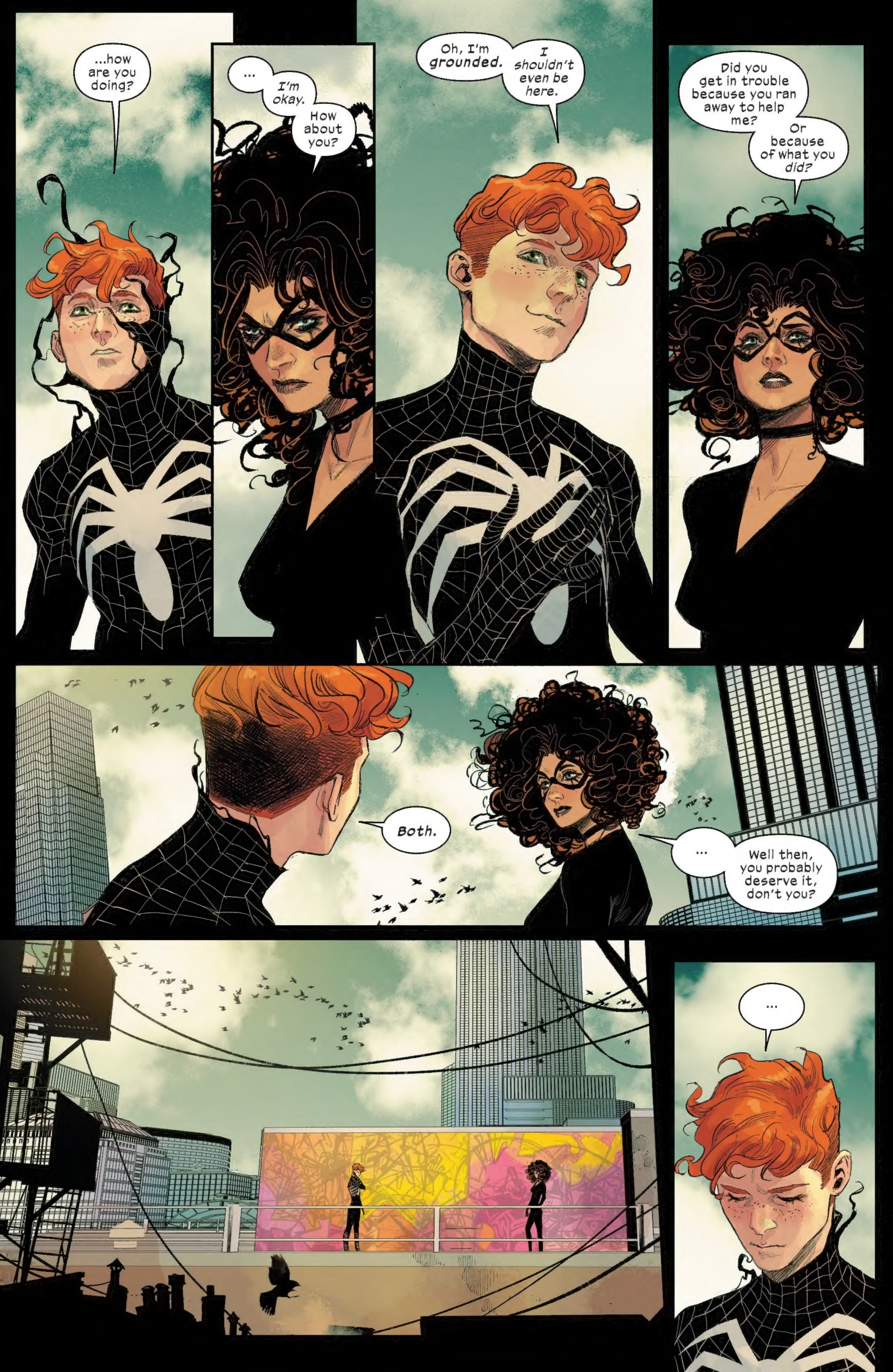
WILSON FISK
KINGPIN

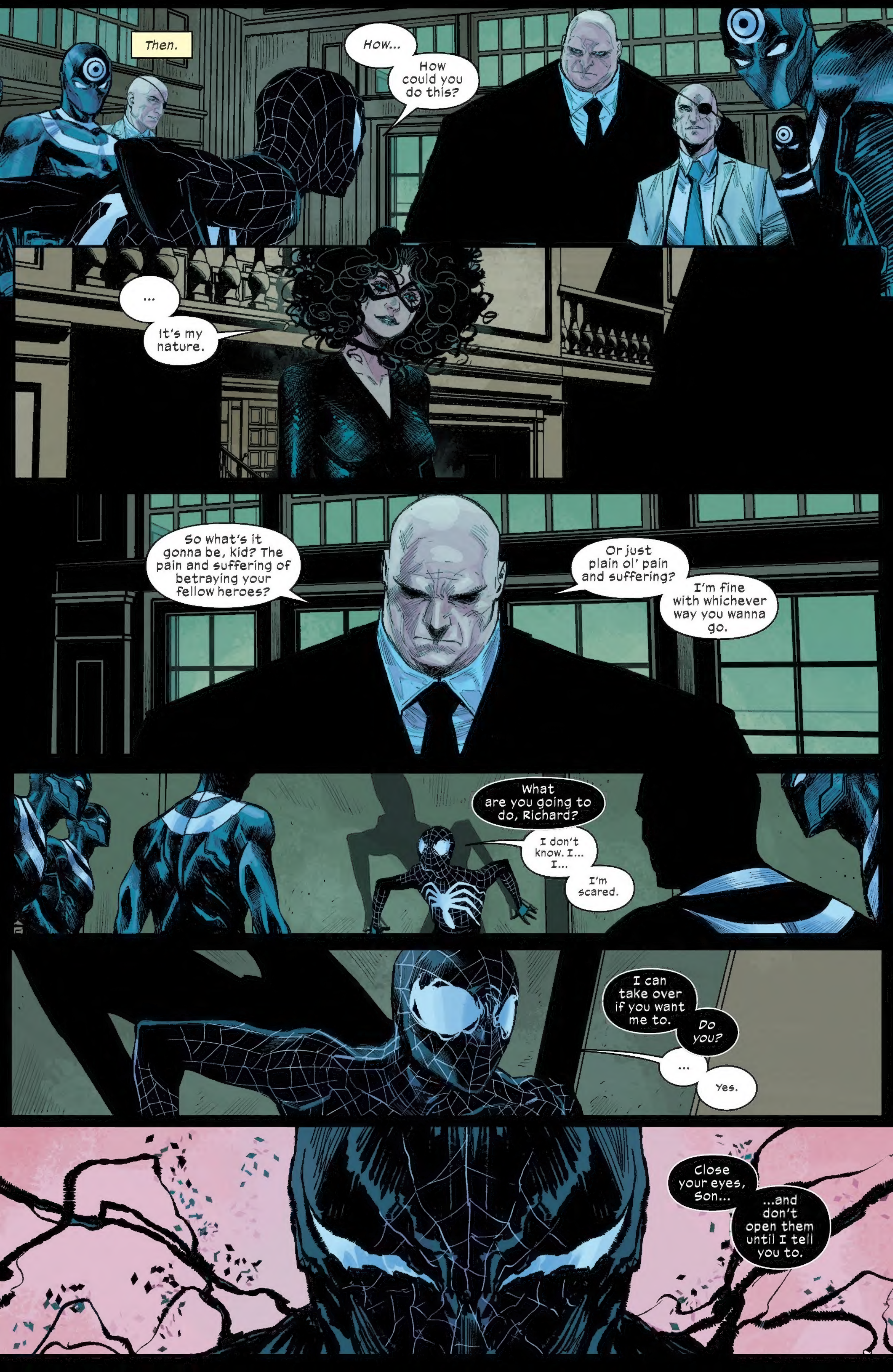
2025

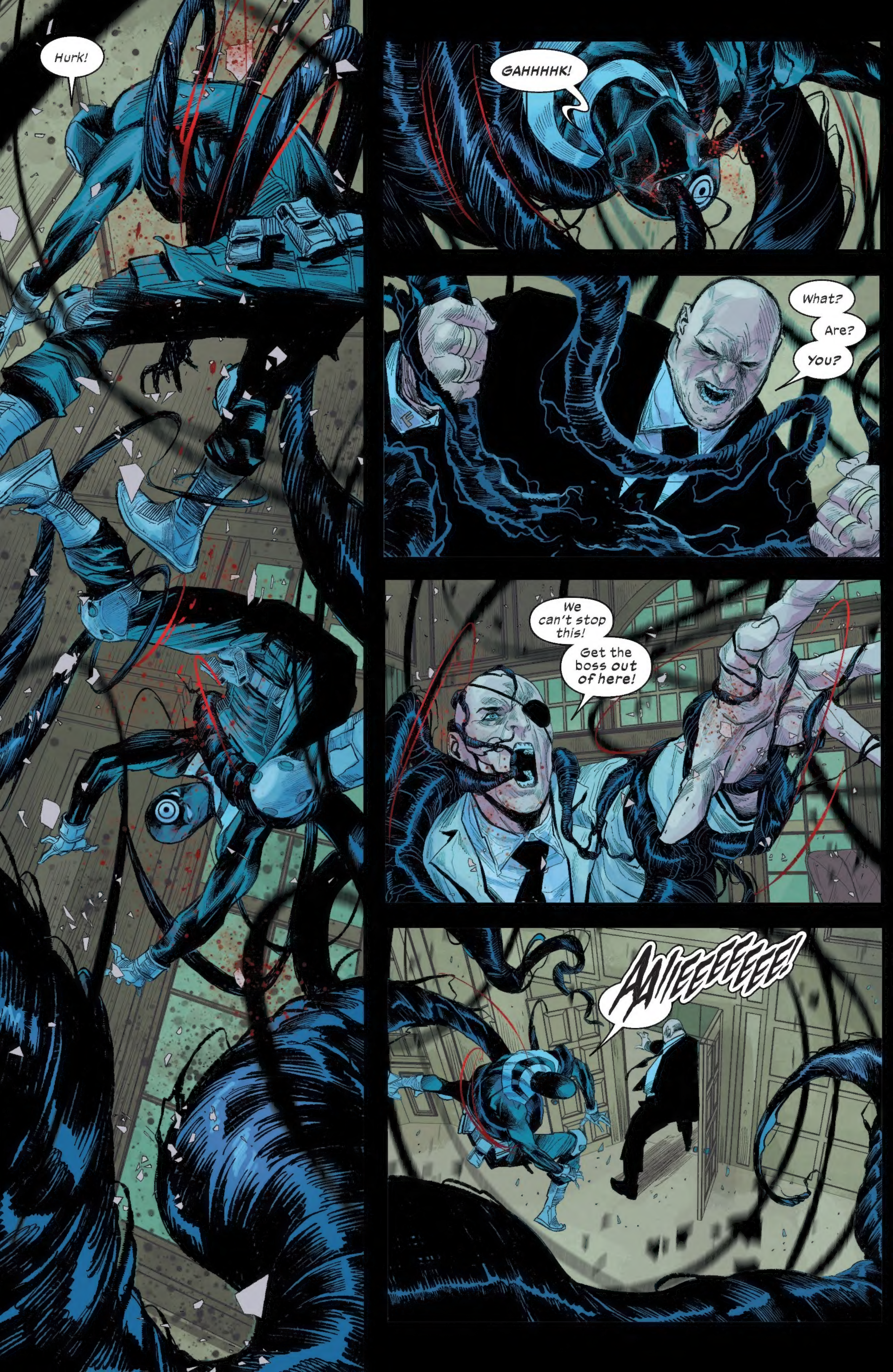


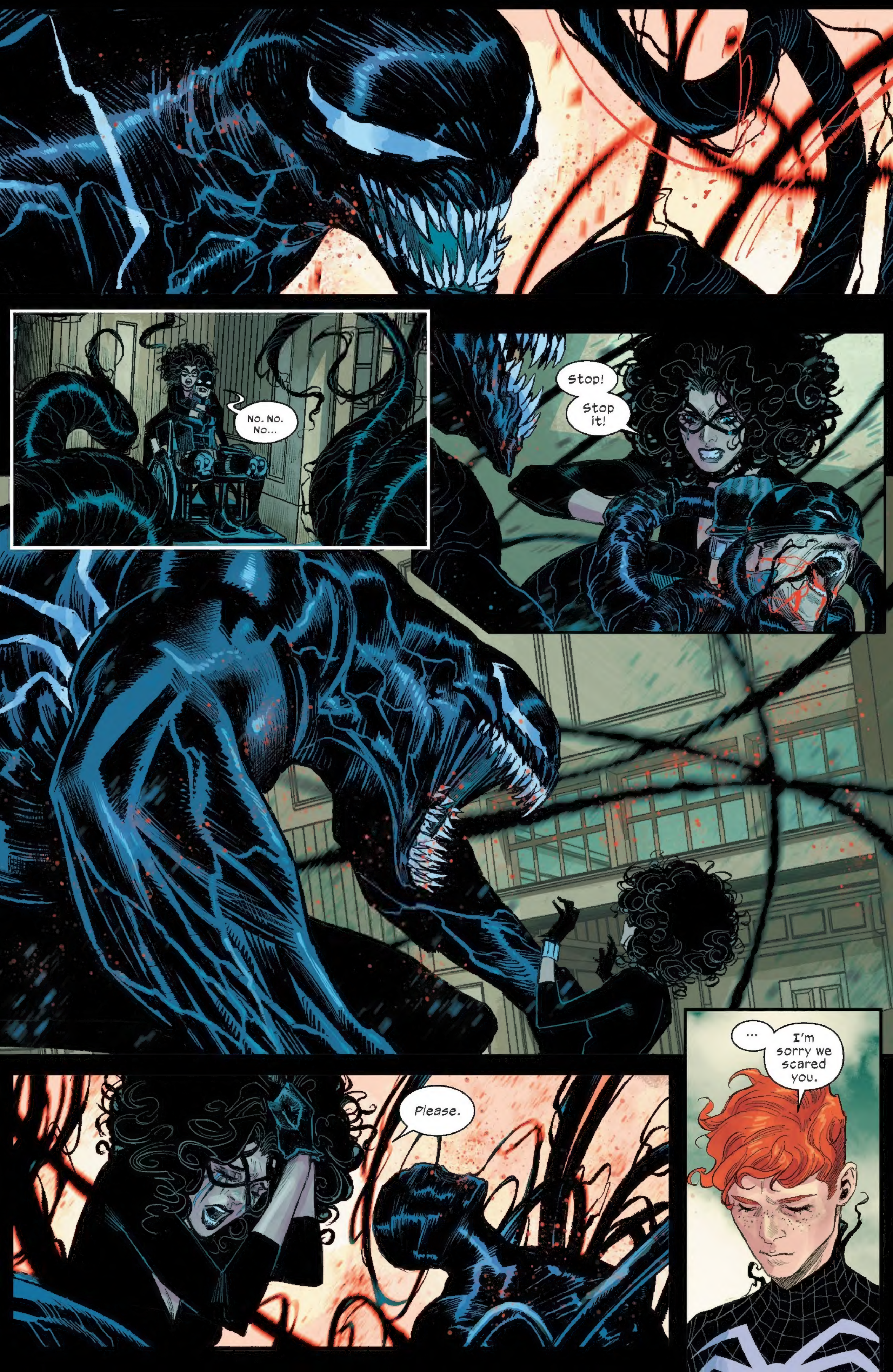
JULY

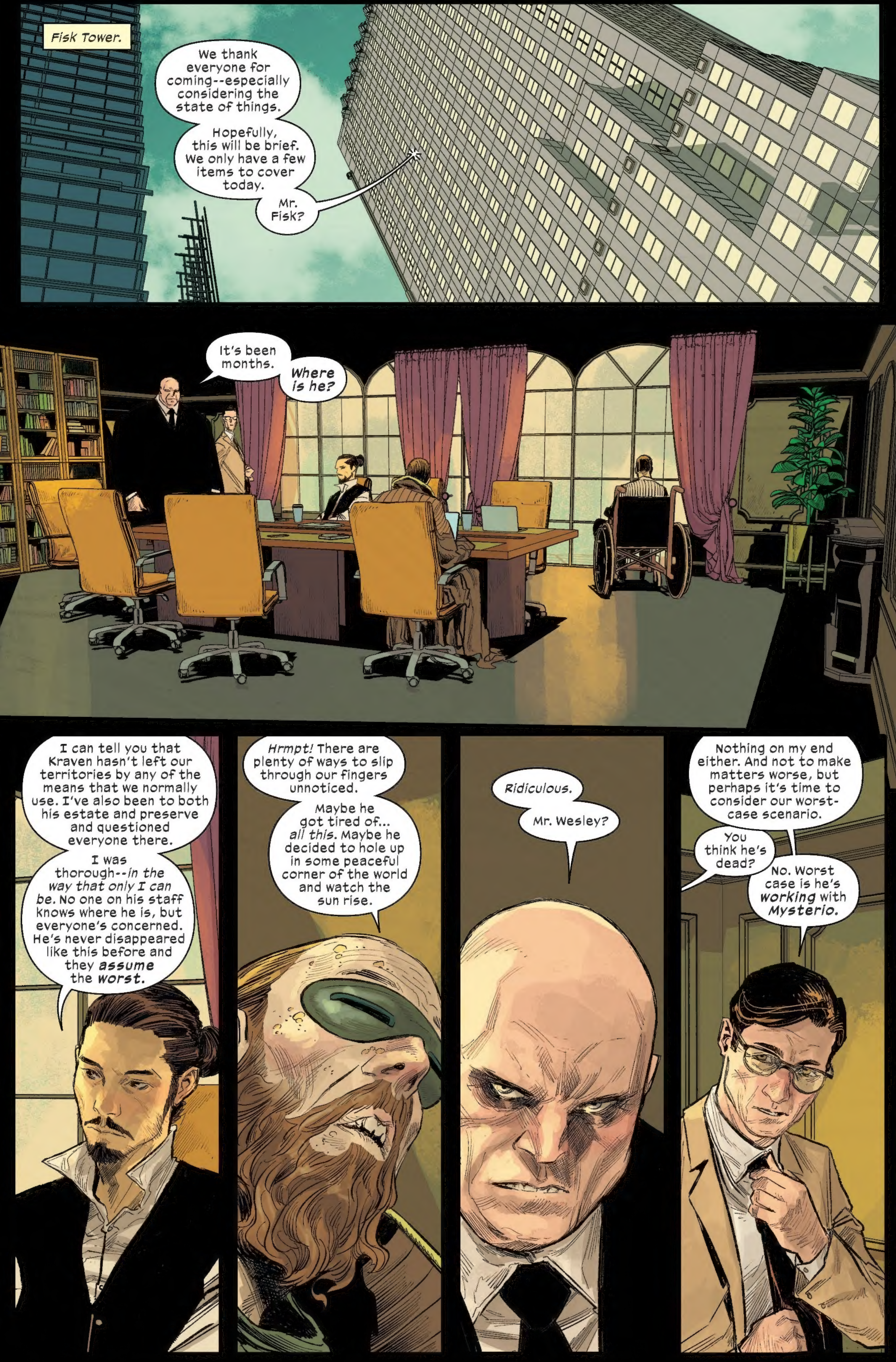

SO...
DAILY BUGL
MENAC

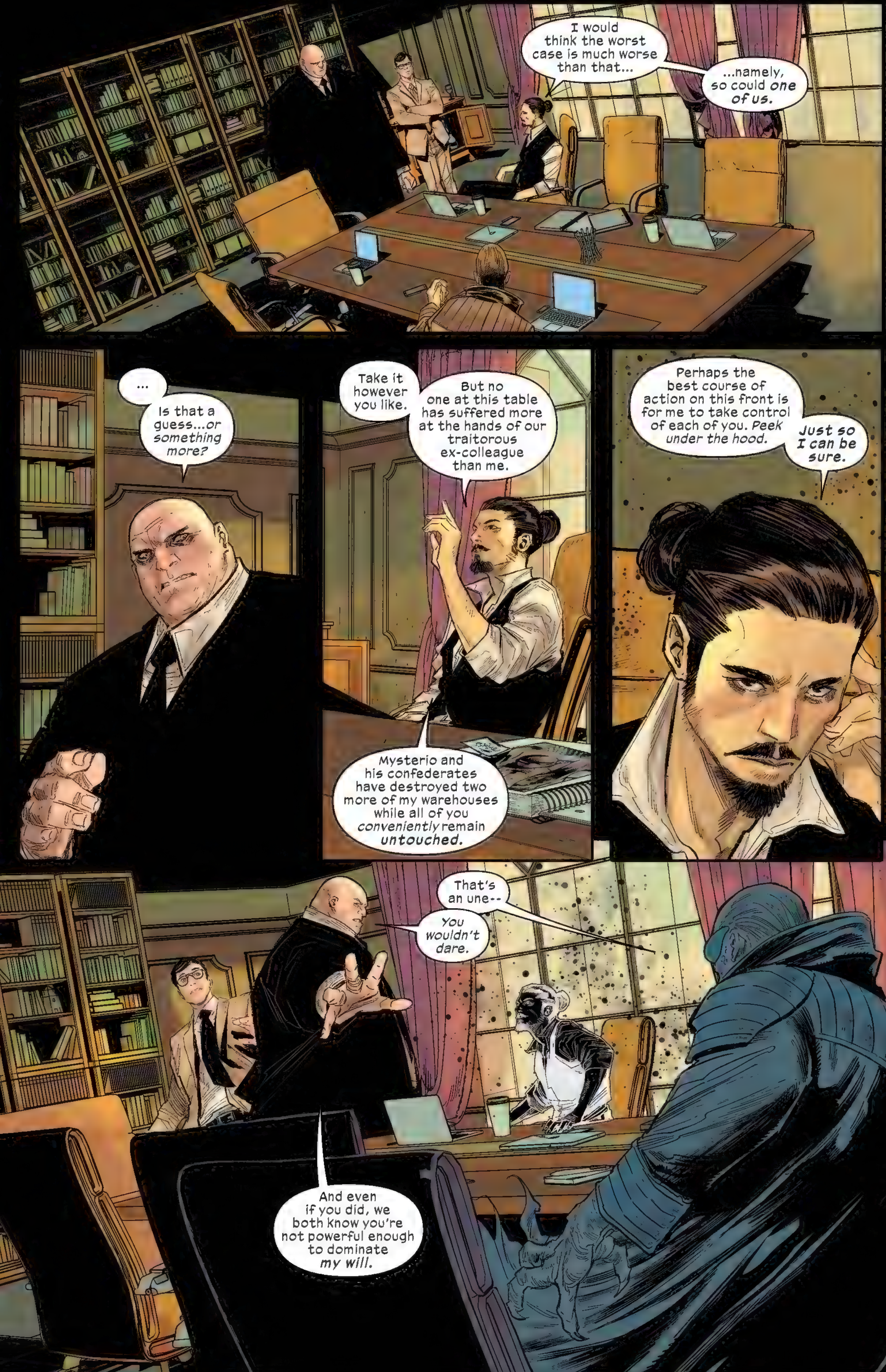

...how are you doing?
...
I'm okay.
How about you?
Oh, I'm grounded.
I shouldn't even be here.
Did you get in trouble because you ran away to help me?
Or because of what you did?
Both.
...
Well then, you probably deserve it, don't you?
...

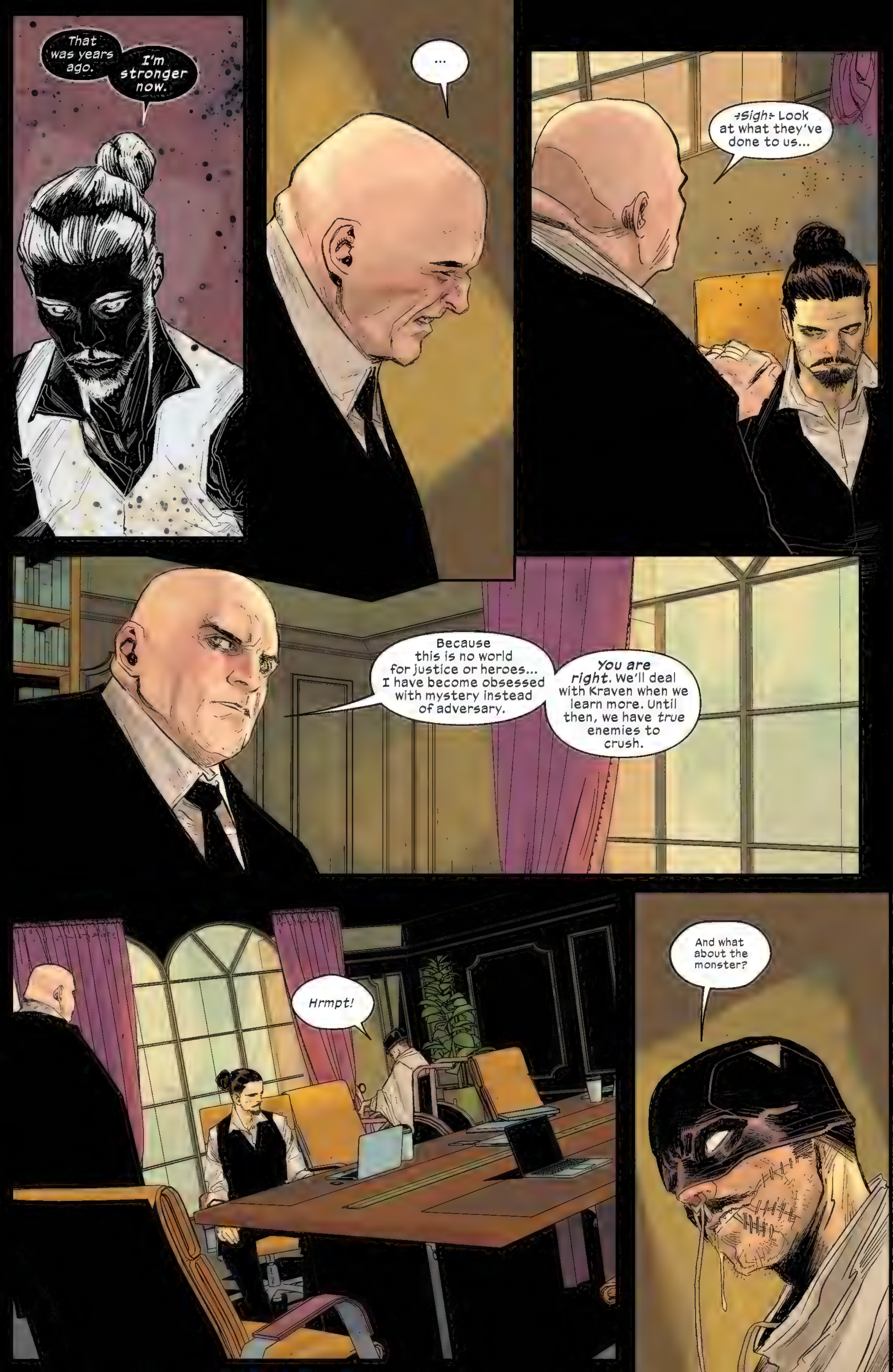

Then.
How...
How could you do this?
...
It's my nature.
So what's it gonna be, kid? The pain and suffering of betraying your fellow heroes?
Or just plain ol' pain and suffering?
I'm fine with whichever way you wanna go.
What are you going to do, Richard?
I don't know. I... I...
I'm scared.
I can take over if you want me to.
Do you?
...
Yes.
Close your eyes, Son...
...and don't open them until I tell you to.

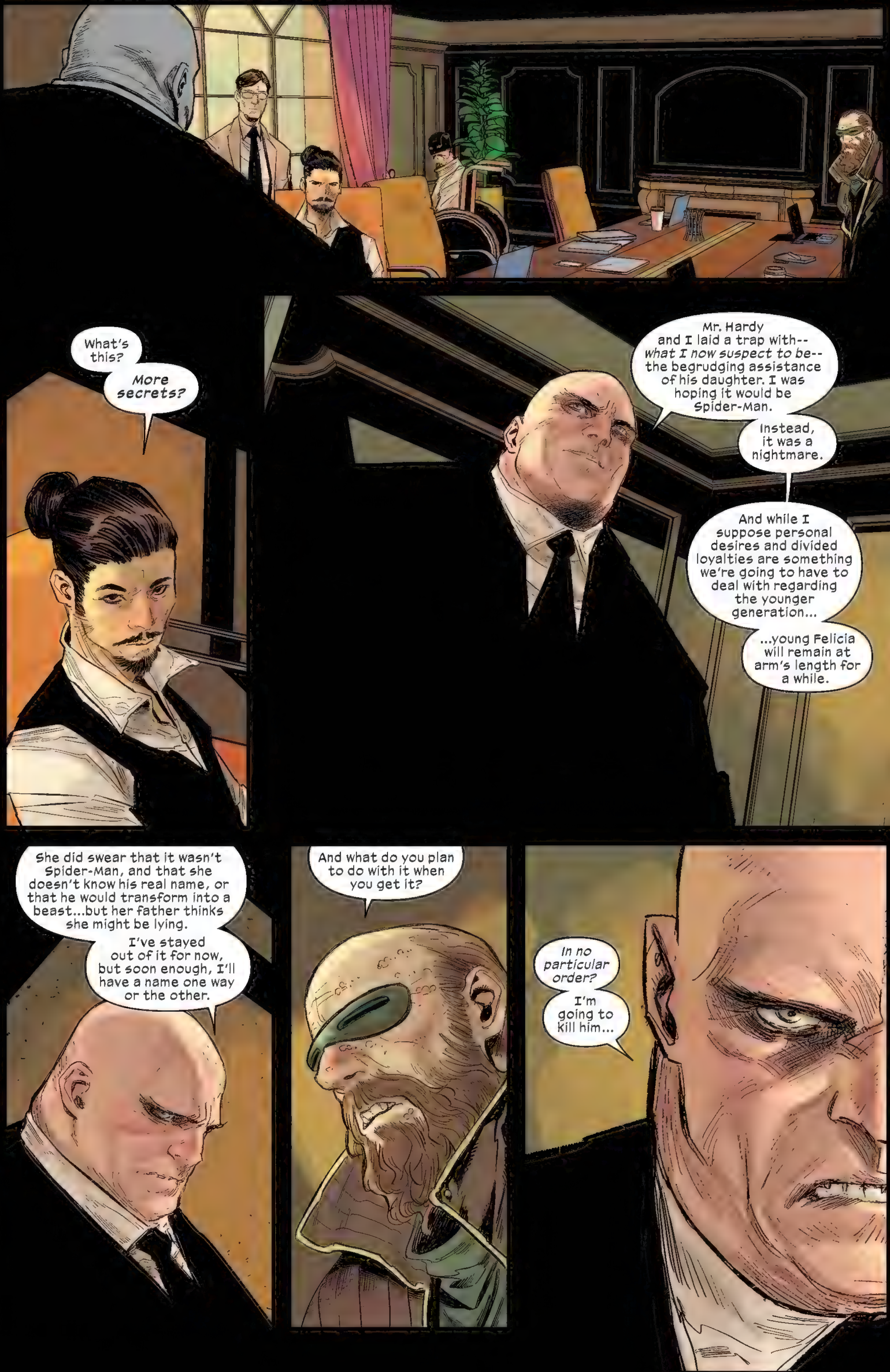

Hurk!
GAHHHHK!
What?
Are?
You?
We can't stop this!
Get the boss out of here!
AAIIEEEEEEE!

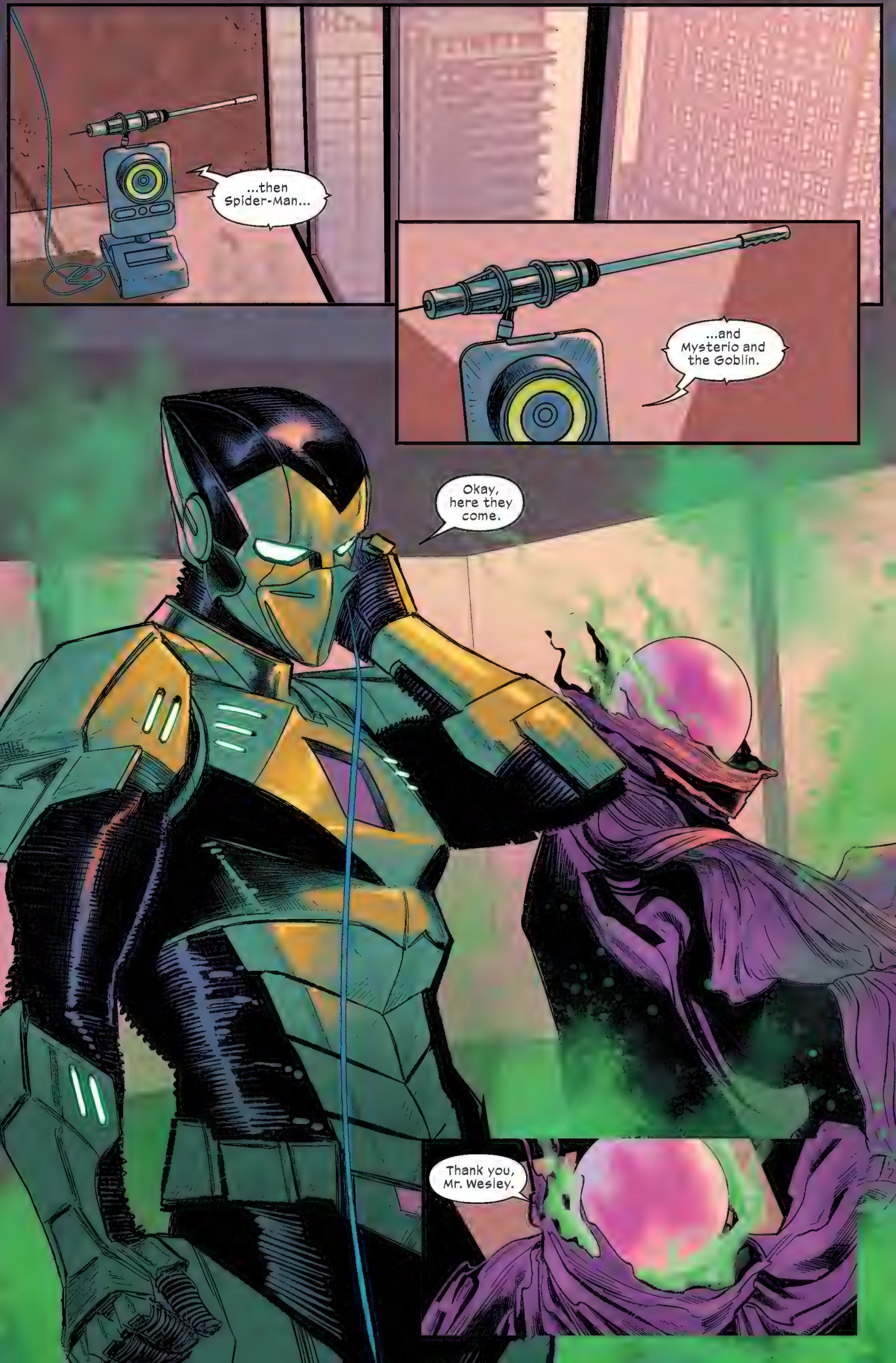

No. No.
No...
Stop!
Stop it!
Please.
...
I'm sorry we scared you.

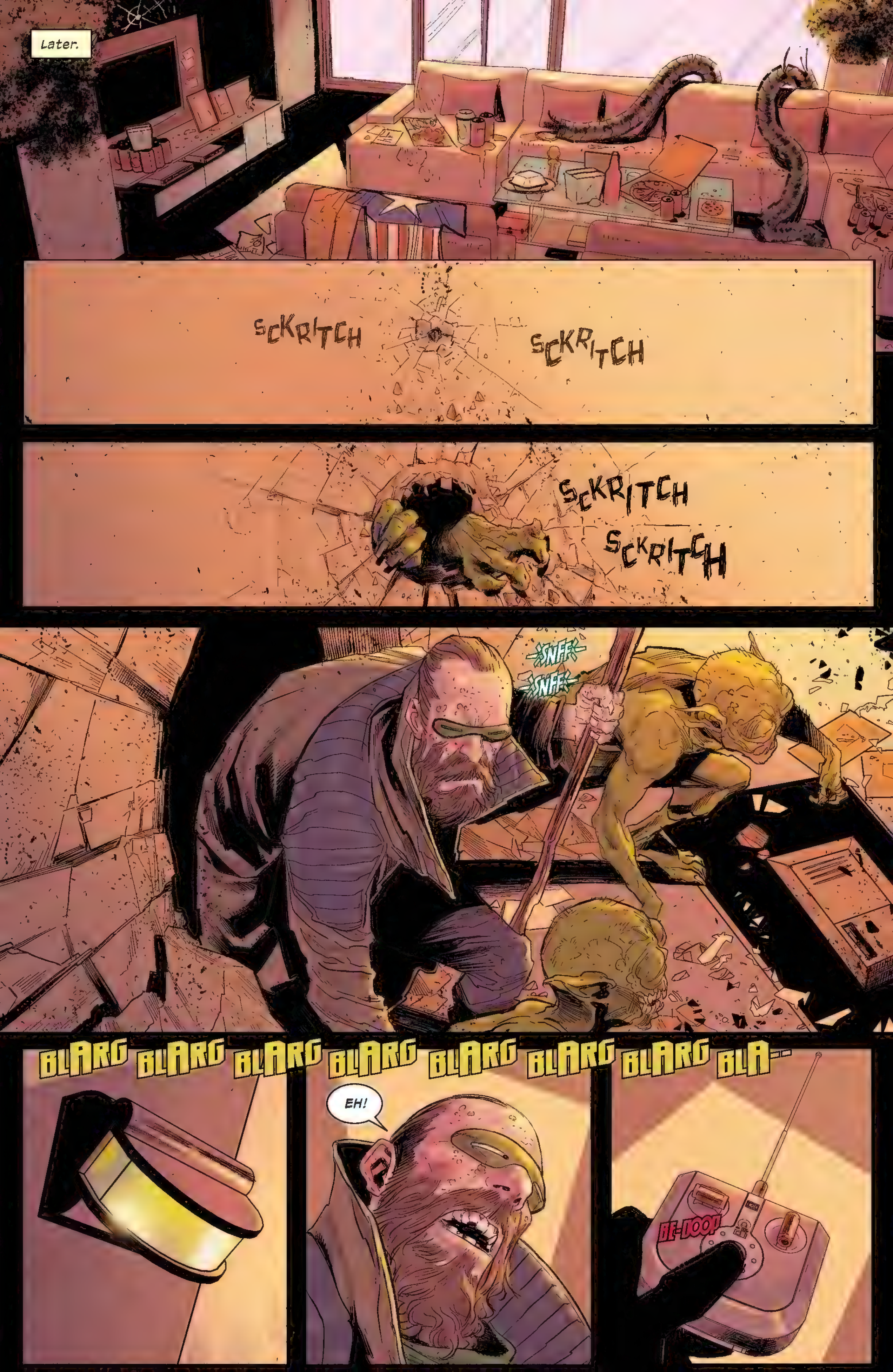

Fisk Tower.
We thank everyone for coming--especially considering the state of things.
Hopefully, this will be brief. We only have a few items to cover today.
Mr. Fisk?
It's been months. *Where is he?*
I can tell you that Kraven hasn't left our territories by any of the means that we normally use. I've also been to both his estate and preserve and questioned everyone there.
I was thorough--*in the way that only I can be.* No one on his staff knows where he is, but everyone's concerned. He's never disappeared like this before and they ***assume*** the ***worst.***
Hrmpt! There are plenty of ways to slip through our fingers unnoticed.
Maybe he got tired of... *all this.* Maybe he decided to hole up in some peaceful corner of the world and watch the sun rise.
Ridiculous.
Mr. Wesley?
Nothing on my end either. And not to make matters worse, but perhaps it's time to consider our worst-case scenario.
You think he's dead?
No. Worst case is he's ***working*** with ***Mysterio.***

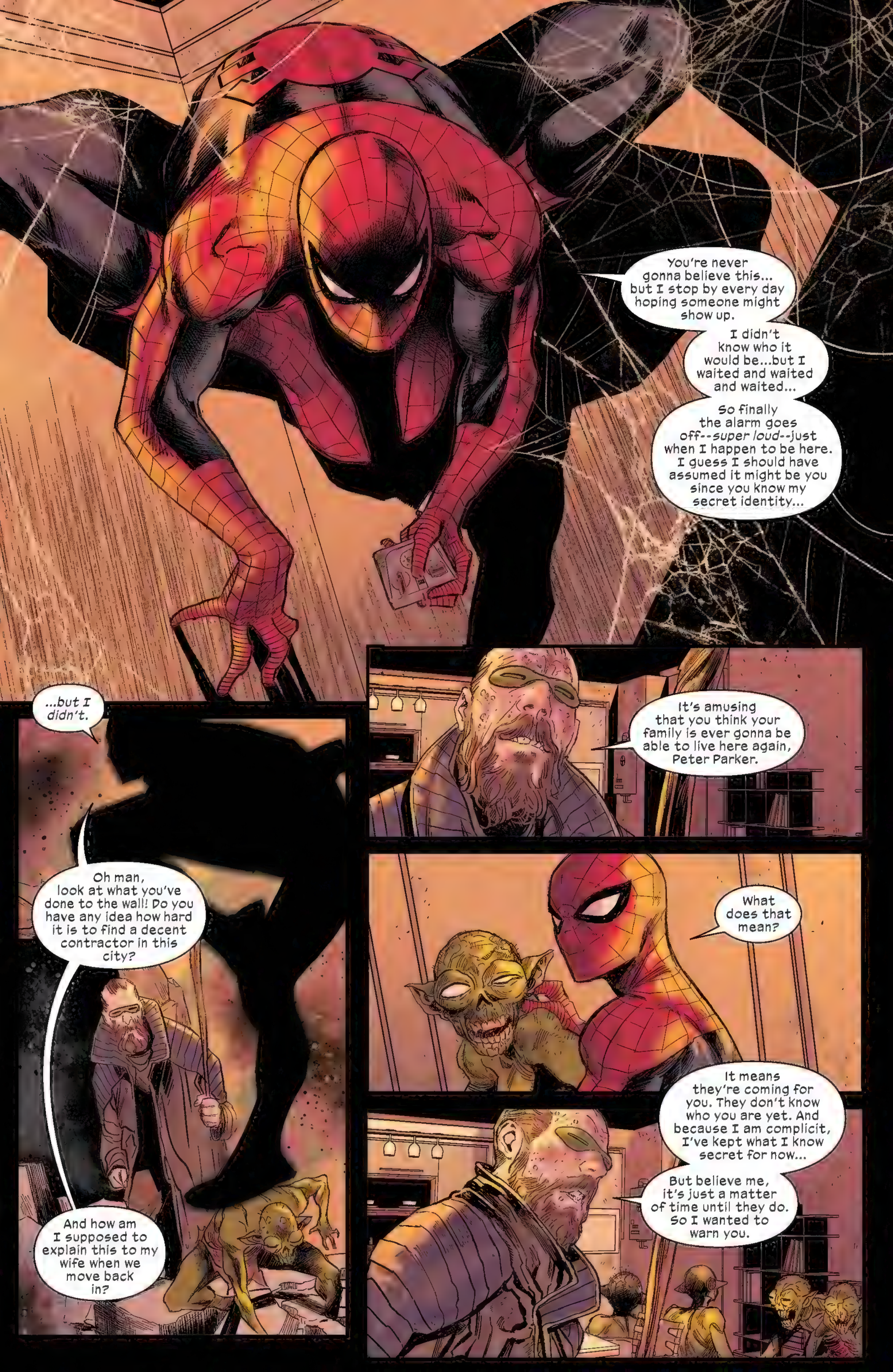

I would think the worst case is much worse than that...
...namely, so could *one of us.*
...
Is that a guess...*or something more?*
Take it however you like.
But no one at this table has suffered more at the hands of our traitorous ex-colleague than me.
Mysterio and his confederates have destroyed two more of my warehouses while all of you *conveniently* remain ***untouched.***
Perhaps the best course of action on this front is for me to take control of each of you. *Peek under the hood.*
Just so I can be sure.
That's an une--
You wouldn't dare.
And even if you did, we both know you're not powerful enough to dominate *my will.*

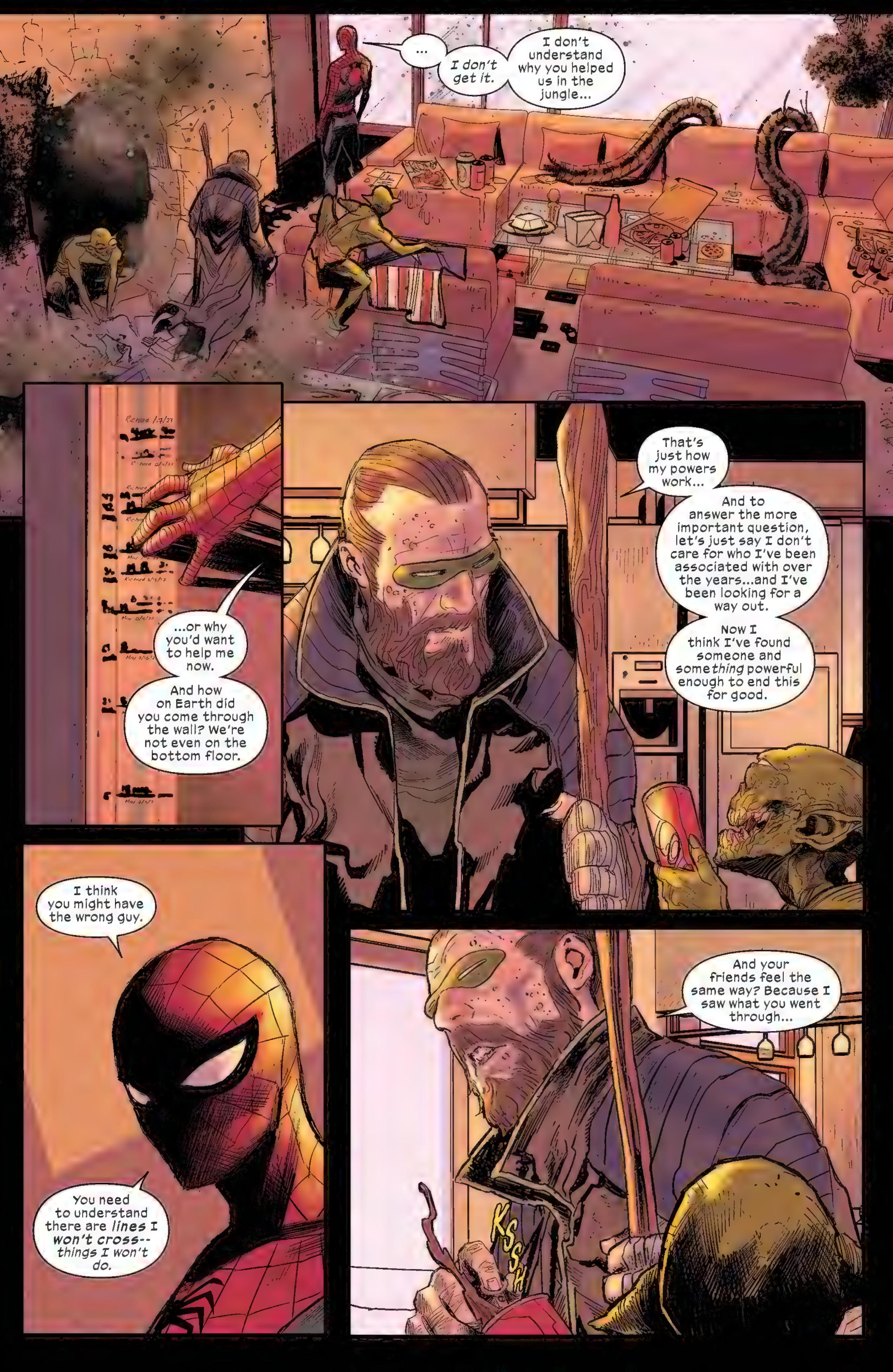

That was years ago.
I'm stronger now.
...
-Sigh- Look at what they've done to us...
Because this is no world for justice or heroes... I have become obsessed with mystery instead of adversary.
You are right. We'll deal with Kraven when we learn more. Until then, we have *true* enemies to crush.
Hrmpt!
And what about the monster?

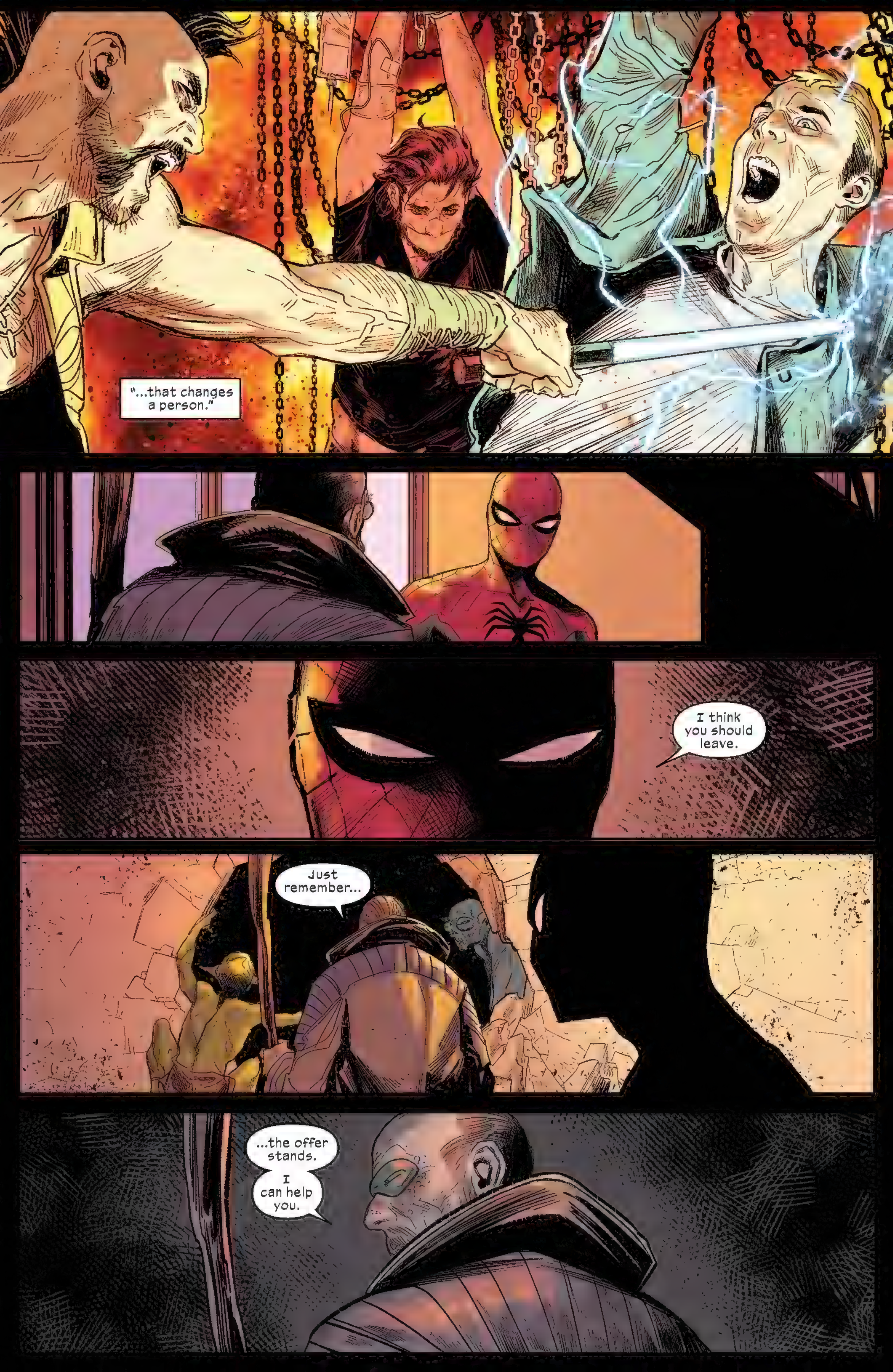

What's this?
More secrets?
Mr. Hardy and I laid a trap with--what I now suspect to be--the begrudging assistance of his daughter. I was hoping it would be Spider-Man.
Instead, it was a nightmare.
And while I suppose personal desires and divided loyalties are something we're going to have to deal with regarding the younger generation...
...young Felicia will remain at arm's length for a while.
She did swear that it wasn't Spider-Man, and that she doesn't know his real name, or that he would transform into a beast...but her father thinks she might be lying.
I've stayed out of it for now, but soon enough, I'll have a name one way or the other.
And what do you plan to do with it when you get it?
In no particular order?
I'm going to kill him...

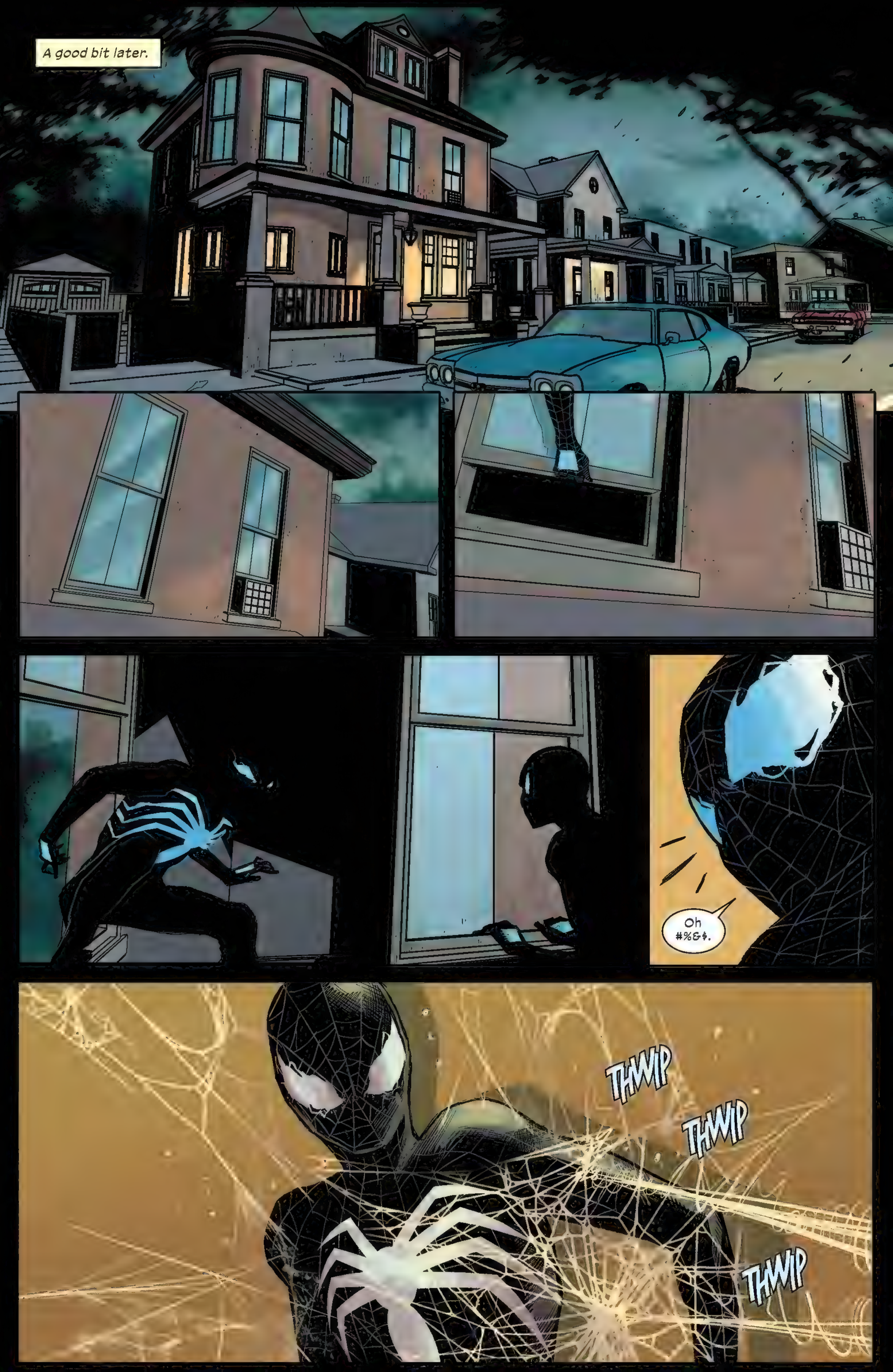

...then Spider-Man...
...and Mysterio and the Goblin.
Okay, here they come.
Thank you, Mr. Wesley.

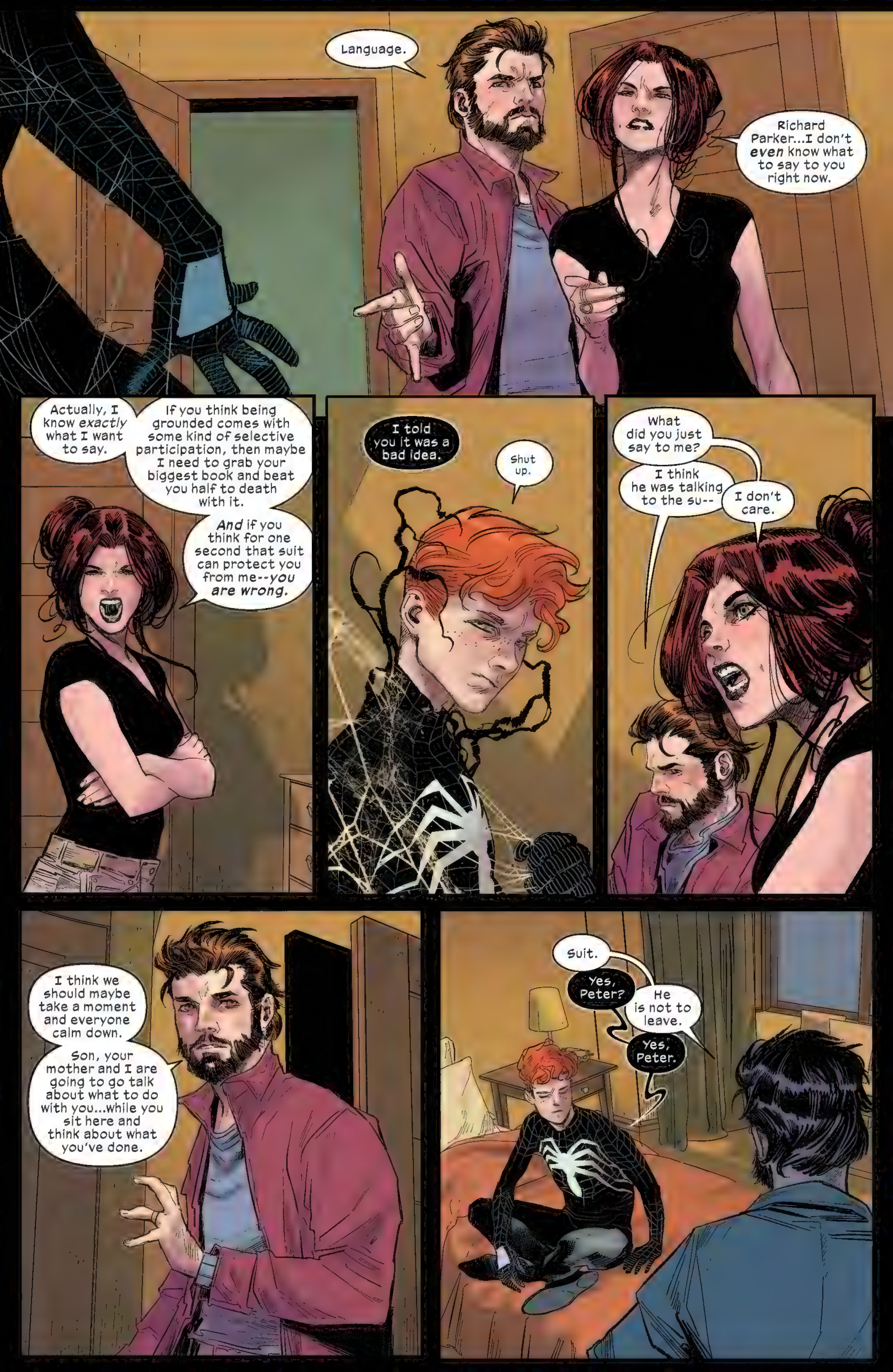

Later.
SCKRITCH
SCKRITCH
SCKRITCH
SCKRITCH
SNFF
SNFF
BLARG BLARG BLARG BLARG BLARG BLARG BLARG BLA--
EH!
BE-DOOP

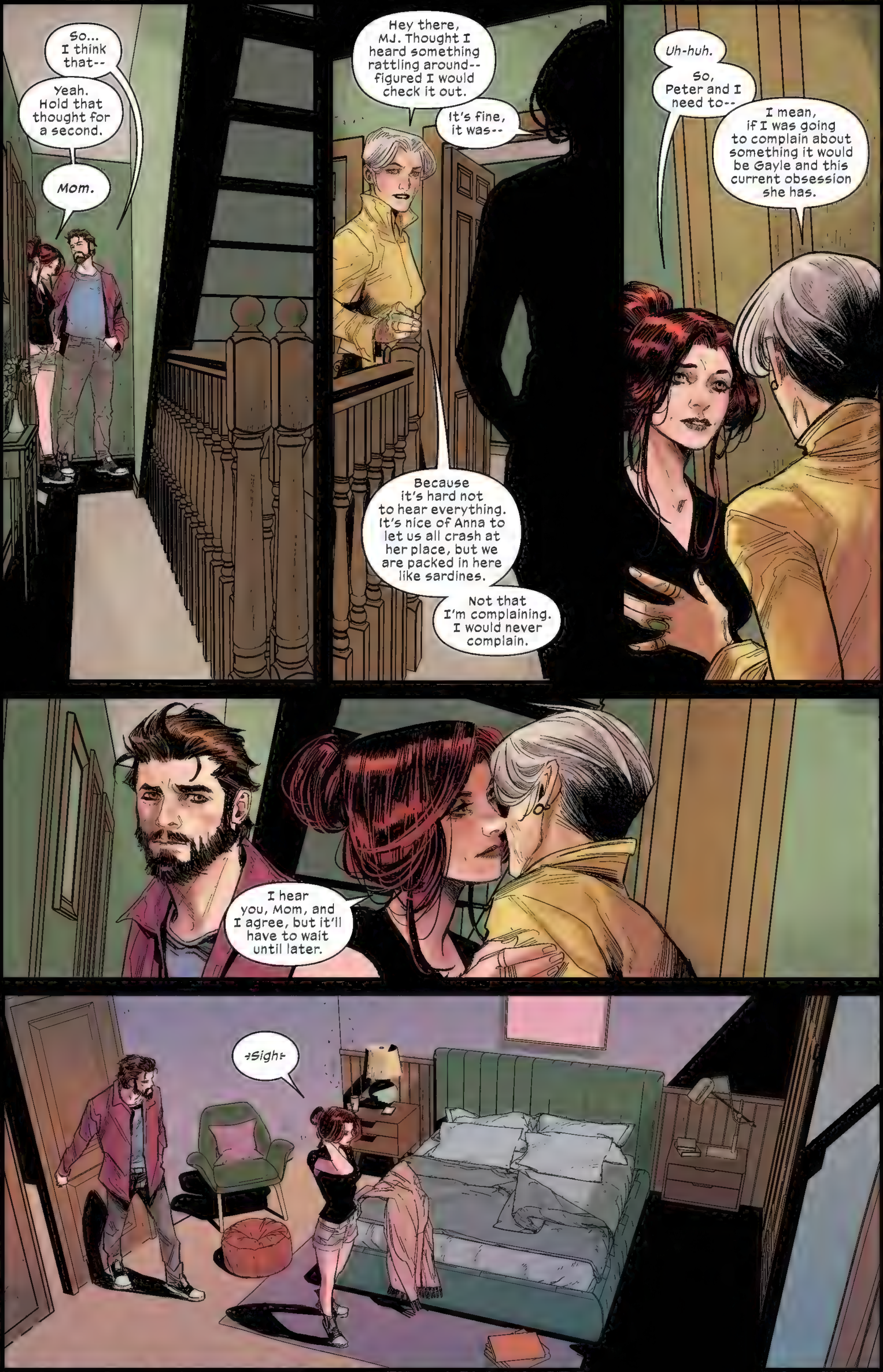

You're never gonna believe this... but I stop by every day hoping someone might show up.
I didn't know who it would be...but I waited and waited and waited...
So finally the alarm goes off--*super loud*--just when I happen to be here. I guess I should have assumed it might be you since you know my secret identity...
...but I didn't.
Oh man, look at what you've done to the wall! Do you have any idea how hard it is to find a decent contractor in this city?
And how am I supposed to explain this to my wife when we move back in?
It's amusing that you think your family is ever gonna be able to live here again, Peter Parker.
What does that mean?
It means they're coming for you. They don't know who you are yet. And because I am complicit, I've kept what I know secret for now...
But believe me, it's just a matter of time until they do. So I wanted to warn you.

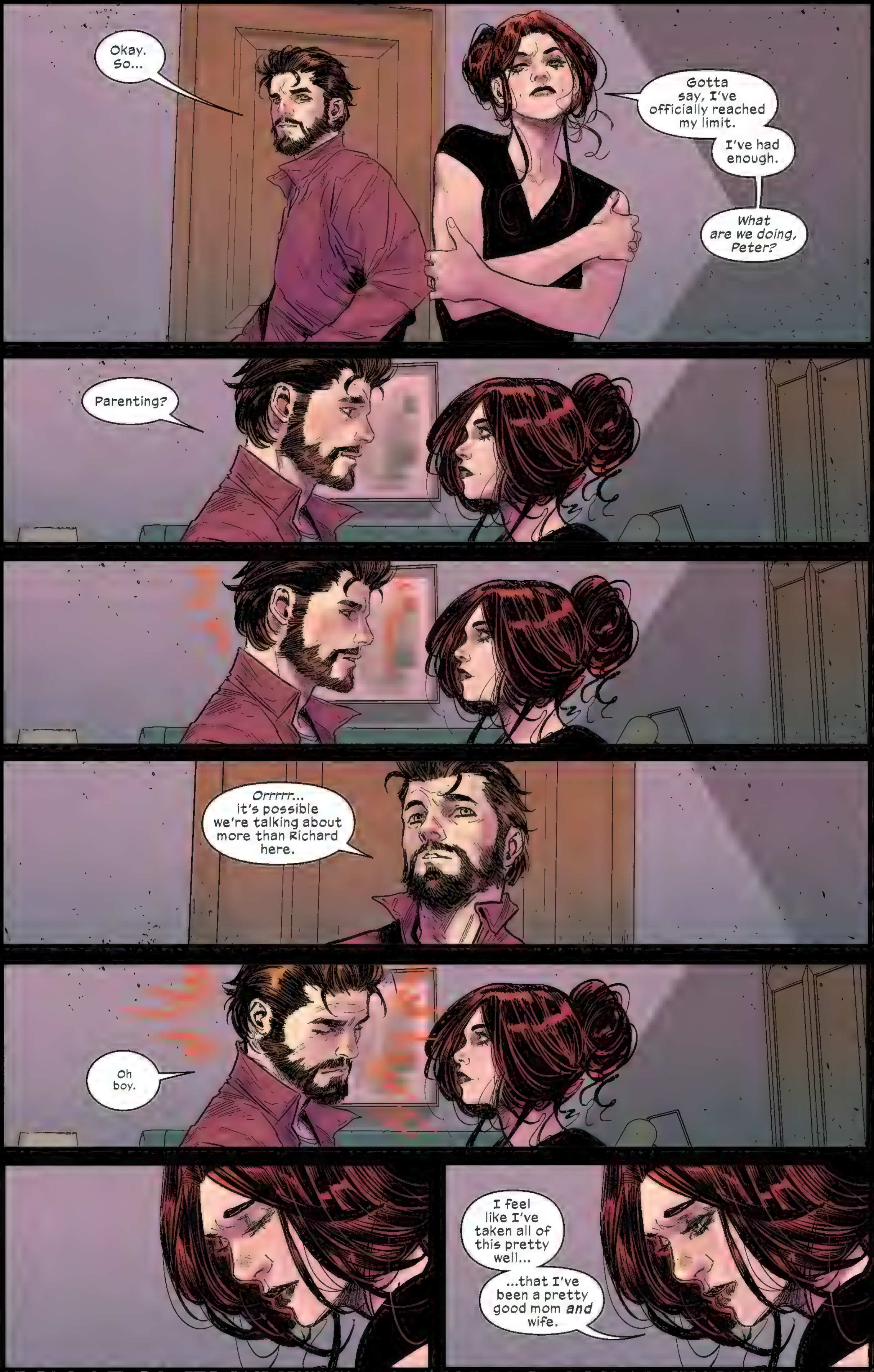

...
I don't get it.
I don't understand why you helped us in the jungle...
...or why you'd want to help me now.
And how on Earth did you come through the wall? We're not even on the bottom floor.
That's just how my powers work...
And to answer the more important question, let's just say I don't care for who I've been associated with over the years...and I've been looking for a way out.
Now I think I've found someone and something powerful enough to end this for good.
I think you might have the wrong guy.
You need to understand there are lines I won't cross-- things I won't do.
And your friends feel the same way? Because I saw what you went through...
KSSH

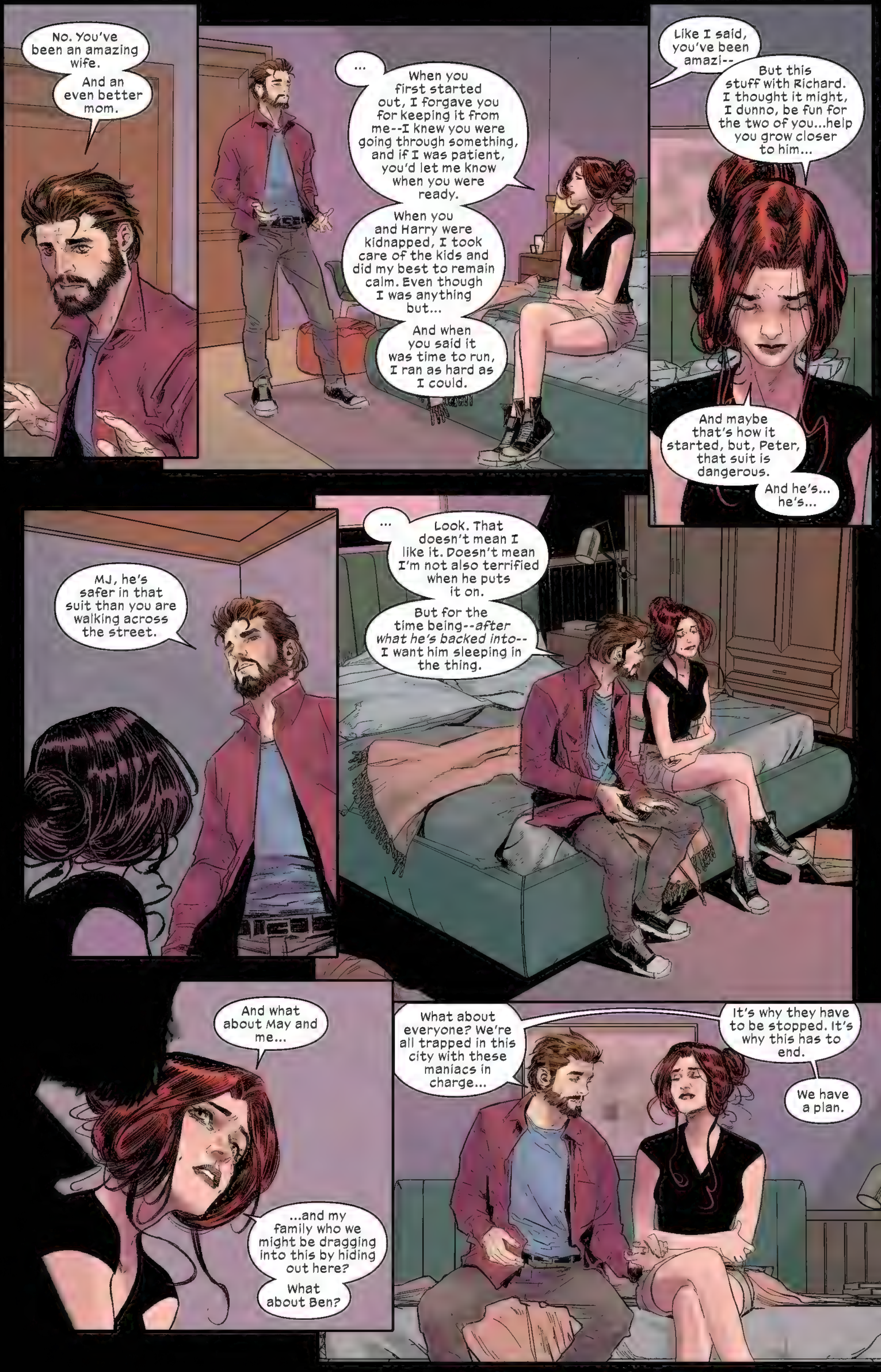

"...that changes a person."
I think you should leave.
Just remember...
...the offer stands.
I can help you.

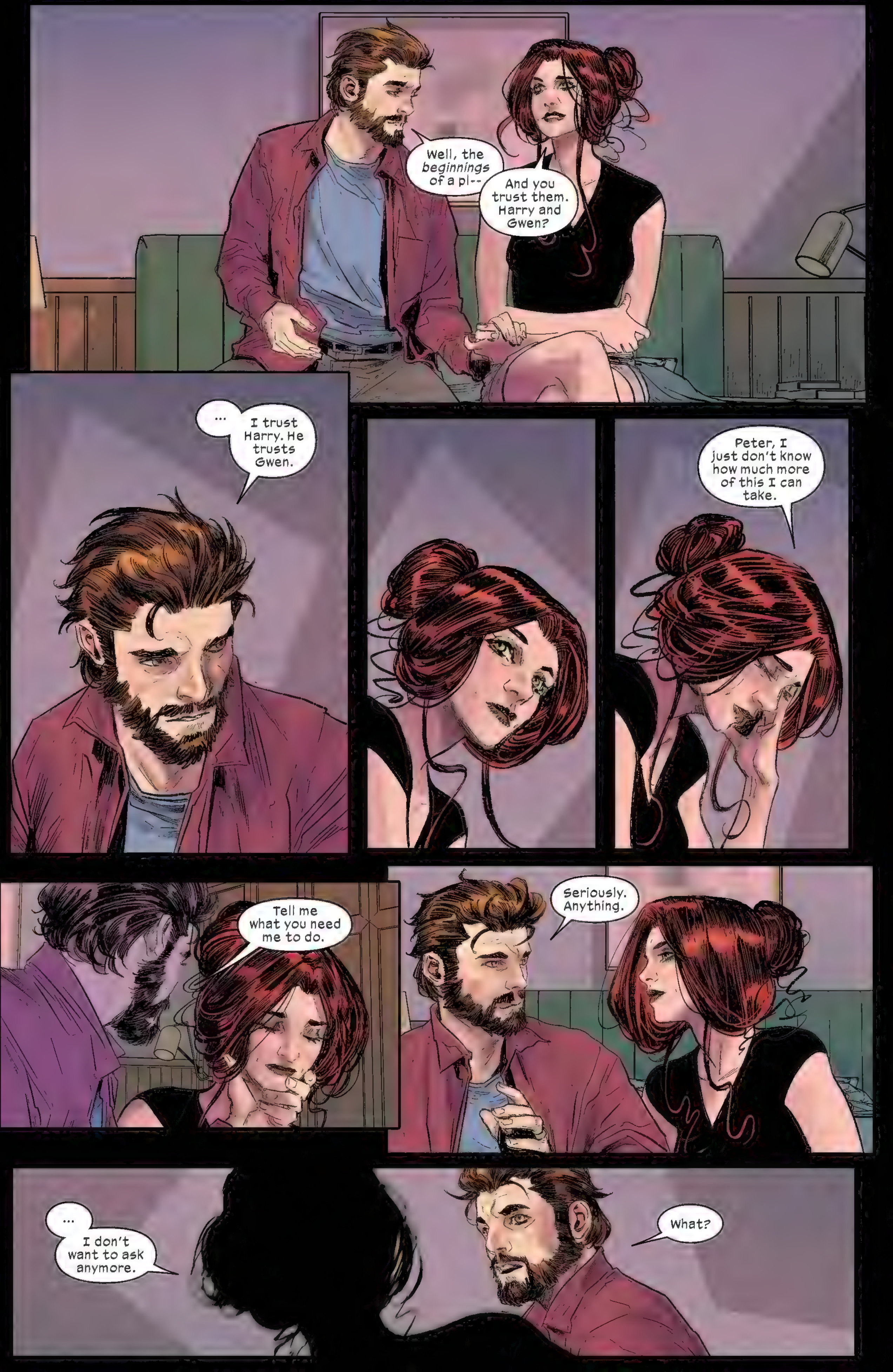

A good bit later.
Oh #%&$.
THWIP
THWIP
THWIP

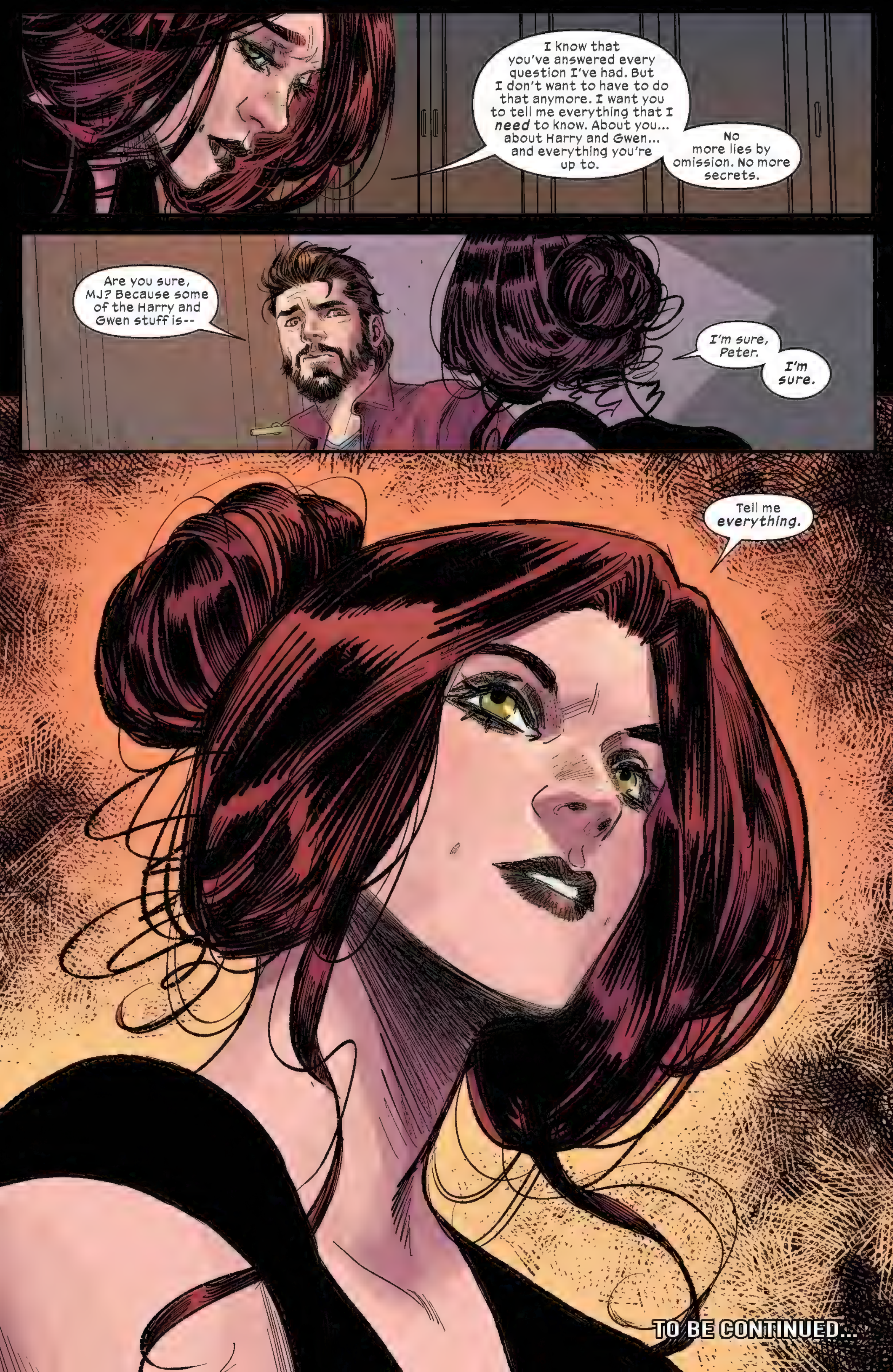

Language.
Richard Parker...I don't *even* know what to say to you right now.
Actually, I know *exactly* what I want to say.
If you think being grounded comes with some kind of selective participation, then maybe I need to grab your biggest book and beat you half to death with it.
And if you think for one second that suit can protect you from me--*you are wrong.*
I told you it was a bad idea.
Shut up.
What did you just say to me?
I think he was talking to the su--
I don't care.
I think we should maybe take a moment and everyone calm down.
Son, your mother and I are going to go talk about what to do with you...while you sit here and think about what you've done.
Suit.
Yes, Peter?
He is not to leave.
Yes, Peter.


So... I think that--
Yeah. Hold that thought for a second.
Mom.
Hey there, MJ. Thought I heard something rattling around-- figured I would check it out.
It's fine, it was--
Because it's hard not to hear everything. It's nice of Anna to let us all crash at her place, but we are packed in here like sardines.
Not that I'm complaining. I would never complain.
Uh-huh.
So, Peter and I need to--
I mean, if I was going to complain about something it would be Gayle and this current obsession she has.
I hear you, Mom, and I agree, but it'll have to wait until later.
-Sigh-


Okay. So...
Gotta say, I've officially reached my limit.
I've had enough.
What are we doing, Peter?
Parenting?
Orrrrr... it's possible we're talking about more than Richard here.
Oh boy.
I feel like I've taken all of this pretty well...
...that I've been a pretty good mom *and* wife.


No. You've been an amazing wife.
And an even better mom.
...
When you first started out, I forgave you for keeping it from me--I knew you were going through something, and if I was patient, you'd let me know when you were ready.
When you and Harry were kidnapped, I took care of the kids and did my best to remain calm. Even though I was anything but...
And when you said it was time to run, I ran as hard as I could.
Like I said, you've been amazi--
But this stuff with Richard. I thought it might, I dunno, be fun for the two of you...help you grow closer to him...
And maybe that's how it started, but, Peter, that suit is dangerous.
And he's... he's...
MJ, he's safer in that suit than you are walking across the street.
...
Look. That doesn't mean I like it. Doesn't mean I'm not also terrified when he puts it on.
But for the time being--*after what he's backed into*--I want him sleeping in the thing.
And what about May and me...
...and my family who we might be dragging into this by hiding out here?
What about Ben?
What about everyone? We're all trapped in this city with these maniacs in charge...
It's why they have to be stopped. It's why this has to end.
We have a plan.


Well, the *beginnings* of a pl--
And you trust them. Harry and Gwen?
... I trust Harry. He trusts Gwen.
Peter, I just don't know how much more of this I can take.
Tell me what you need me to do.
Seriously. Anything.
... I don't want to ask anymore.
What?


I know that you've answered every question I've had. But I don't want to have to do that anymore. I want you to tell me everything that I *need* to know. About you... about Harry and Gwen... and everything you're up to.
No more lies by omission. No more secrets.
Are you sure, MJ? Because some of the Harry and Gwen stuff is--
I'm sure, Peter.
I'm sure.
Tell me *everything.*
TO BE CONTINUED...

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SPIDER-MAN CREATED BY **STAN LEE** & **STEVE DITKO**

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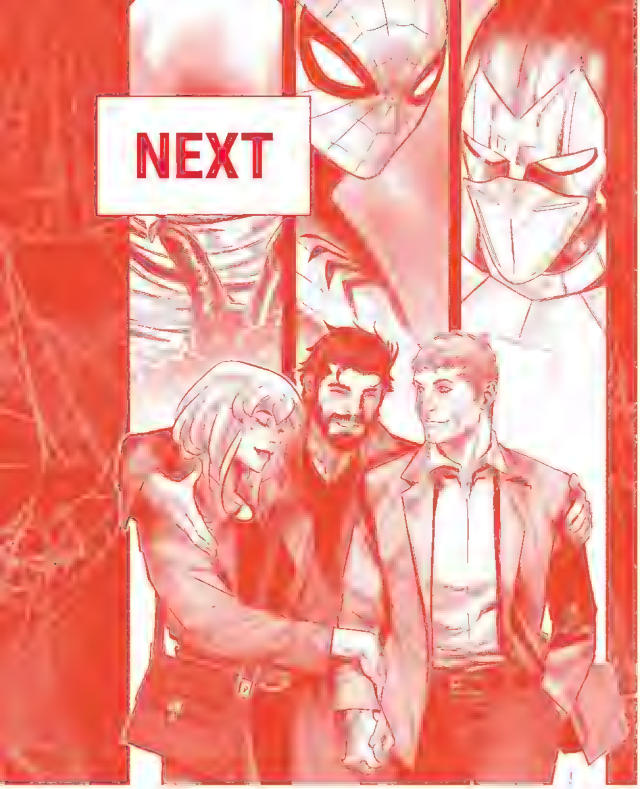

MARVEL
ULTIMATE
SPIDER-MAN
20
HICKMAN
MESSINA WILSON
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ON SALE IN **AUGUST**

ON SALE THIS MONTH

MARVEL
ULTIMATE
BLACK PANTHER

ULTIMATE BLACK PANTHER #18

BY **BRYAN HILL**
& **STEFANO CASELLI**

MARVEL
ULTIMATE
X-MEN
17

ULTIMATE X-MEN #17

BY **PEACH MOMOKO**

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THE
ULTIMATES
14

ULTIMATES #14

BY **DENIZ CAMP**
& **JUAN FRIGERI**

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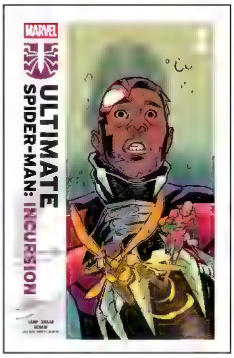
WOLVERINE
7

ULTIMATE WOLVERINE #7

BY **CHRIS CONDON** &
ALESSANDRO CAPPUCCIO


MARVEL
ULTIMATE
SPIDER-MAN: INCURSION

ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN: INCURSION #2

BY **DENIZ CAMP**, **CODY ZIGLAR**
& **JONAS SCHARF**

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU! EMAIL US AT **ULTIMATEOFFICE@MARVEL.COM** AND MARK YOUR LETTERS **"OKAY TO PRINT"**!

18

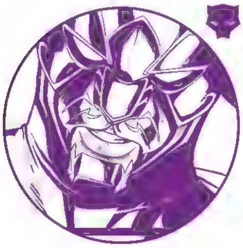
A diabolical genius known as **THE MAKER** created his ideal Earth by systematically preventing anyone from ever becoming a super hero. To rule his perfected Earth, he placed super villains in charge of different regions, and together, **THE MAKER'S COUNCIL** quietly orchestrated the history of the world.

KING T'CHALLA of the highly advanced, isolated **WAKANDA** thought he'd triumphed over the evils of the Maker's Council. But **RA** and **KHONSHU**, the overseers of the African continent, had unlocked a larger, more dangerous power by activating **VIBRANIUM**, the element upon which Wakanda was built.

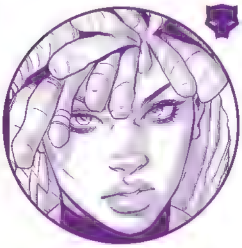
After T'Challa defeated Ra and Khonshu, he and the **SORCERER SUPREME**, **INAN**, accidentally unleashed an angry spirit within vibranium. **BLACK PANTHER** and **STORM** tracked the spirit to Nigeria, where it possessed two humans--**ADI** and **HELEN**--and turned them into vibranium-fueled monsters. Meanwhile, the **VODU-KHAN** revealed they support these monsters as important players in their prophecy...

ULTIMATE BLACK PANTHER

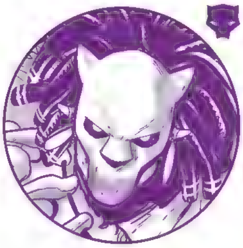
CAST:



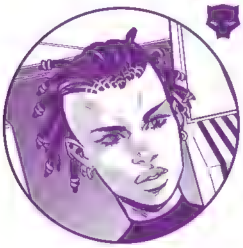
BLACK PANTHER
KING T'CHALLA



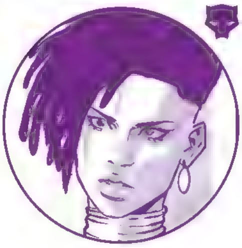
STORM
ORORO MUNROE



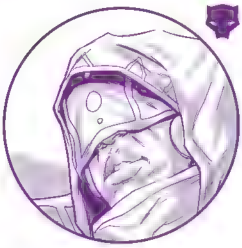
KILLMONGER
ERIK KILLMONGER



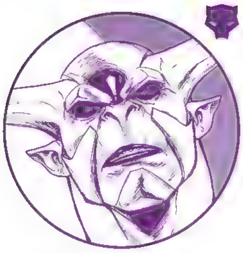
SHURI
WOMAN-AT-ARMS,
T'CHALLA'S SISTER



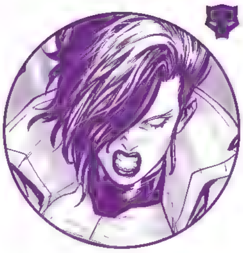
QUEEN OKOYE
HIGH MENTOR OF
THE DORA MILAJE



MATRON IMALA
SACRED MOTHER OF
THE VODU-KHAN

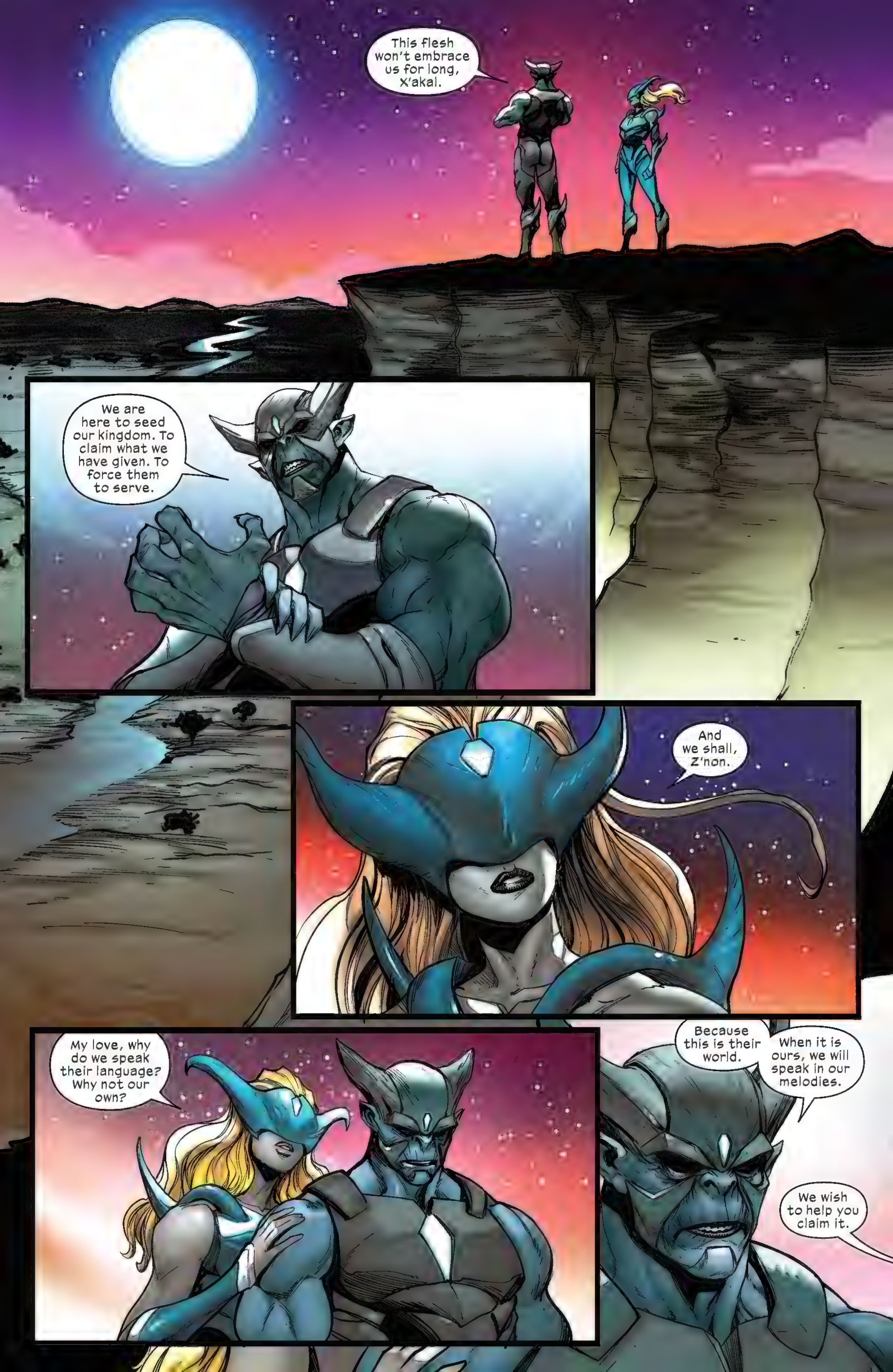


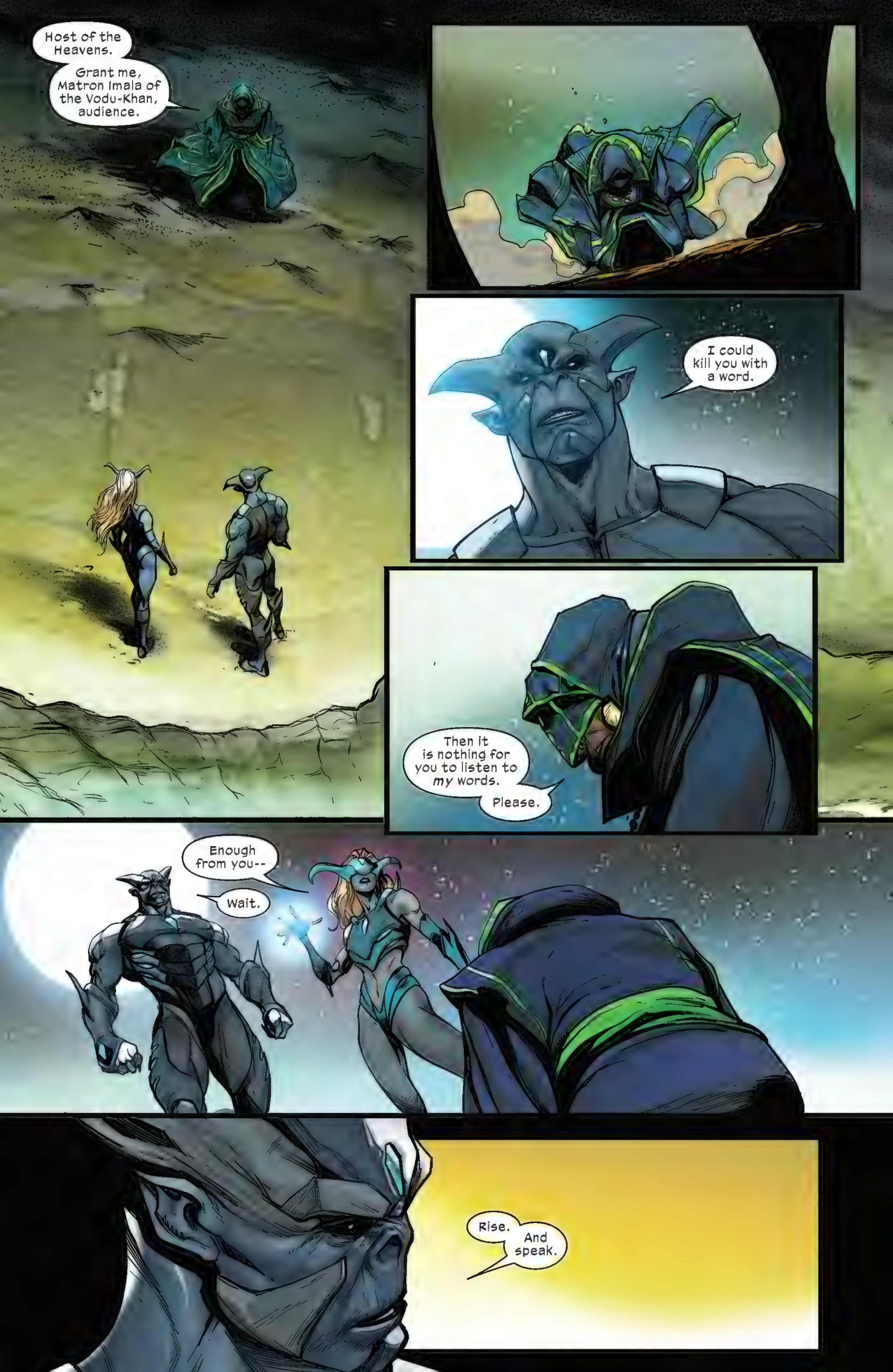
Z'NON
SPIRIT OF
VIBRANIUM

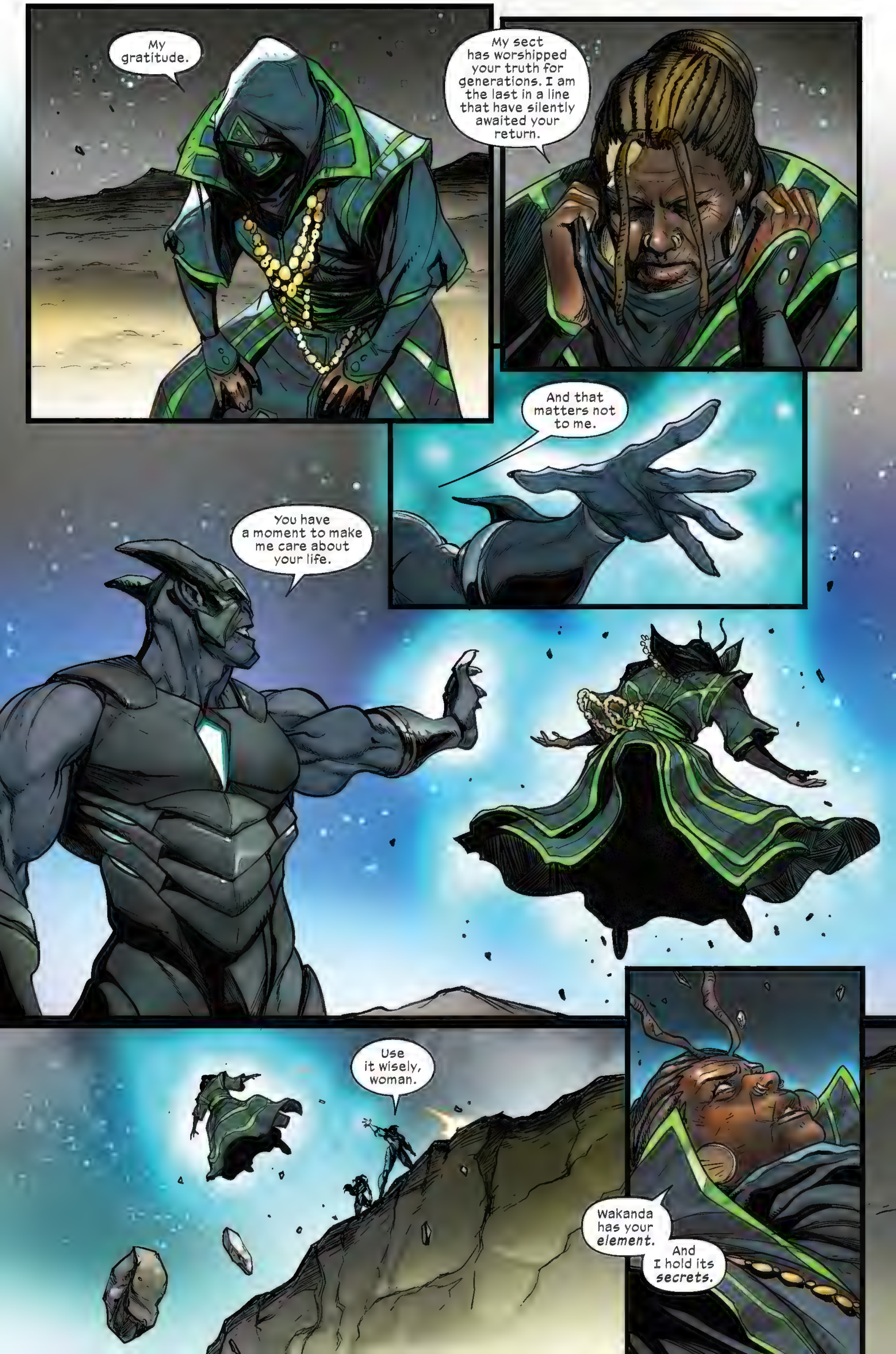


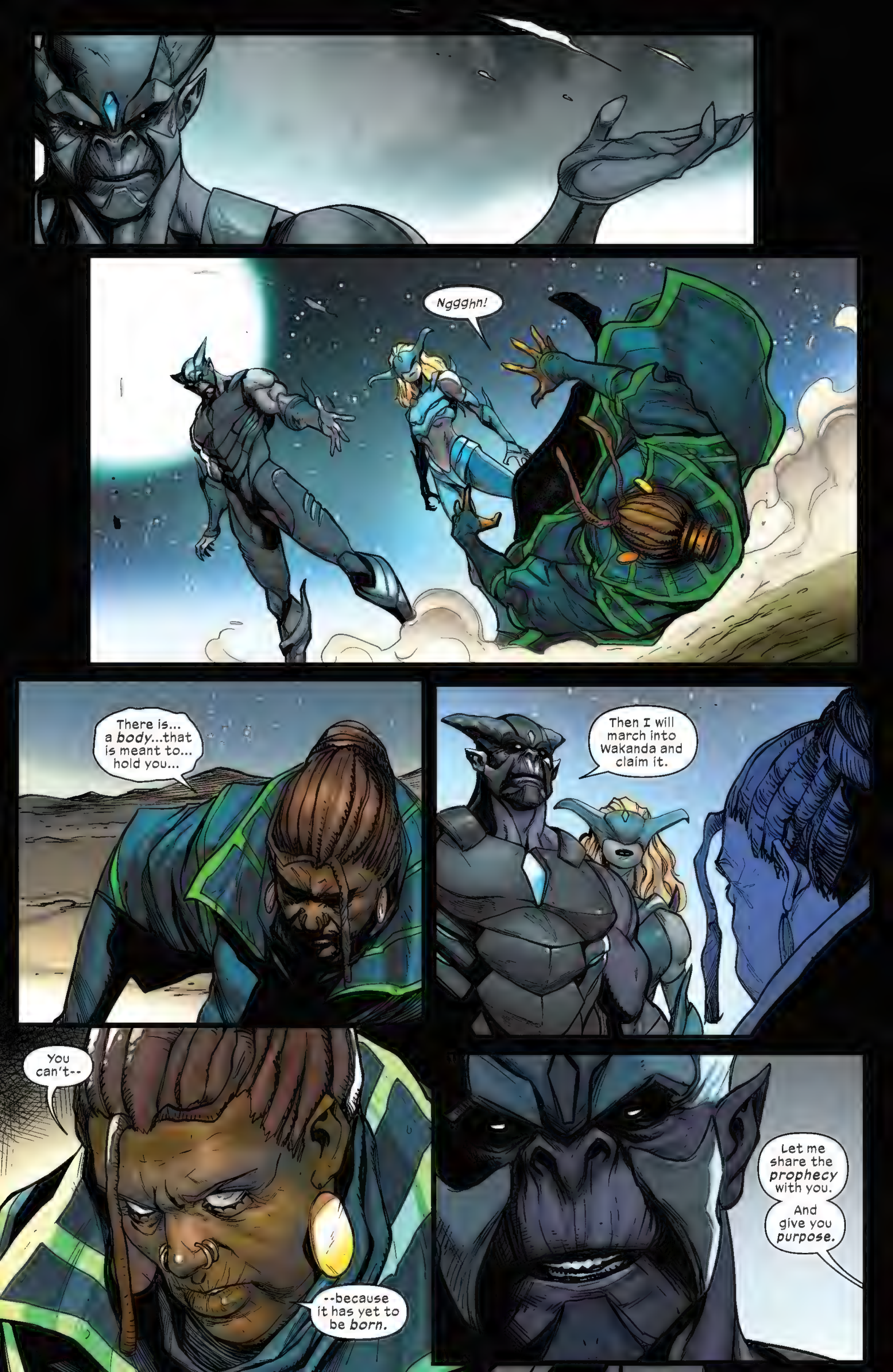
INAN
THE SORCERER
SUPREME

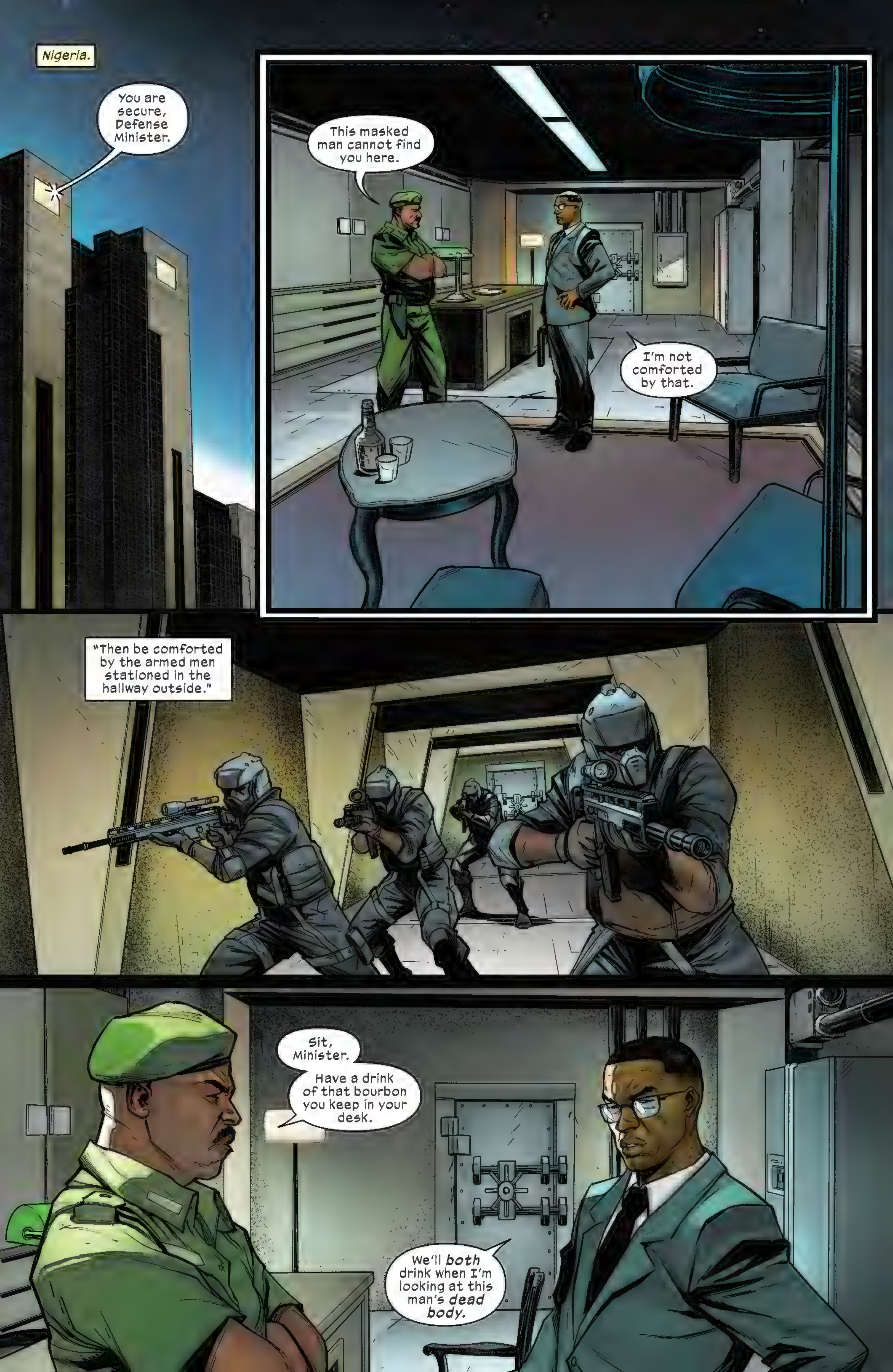
JULY 2025

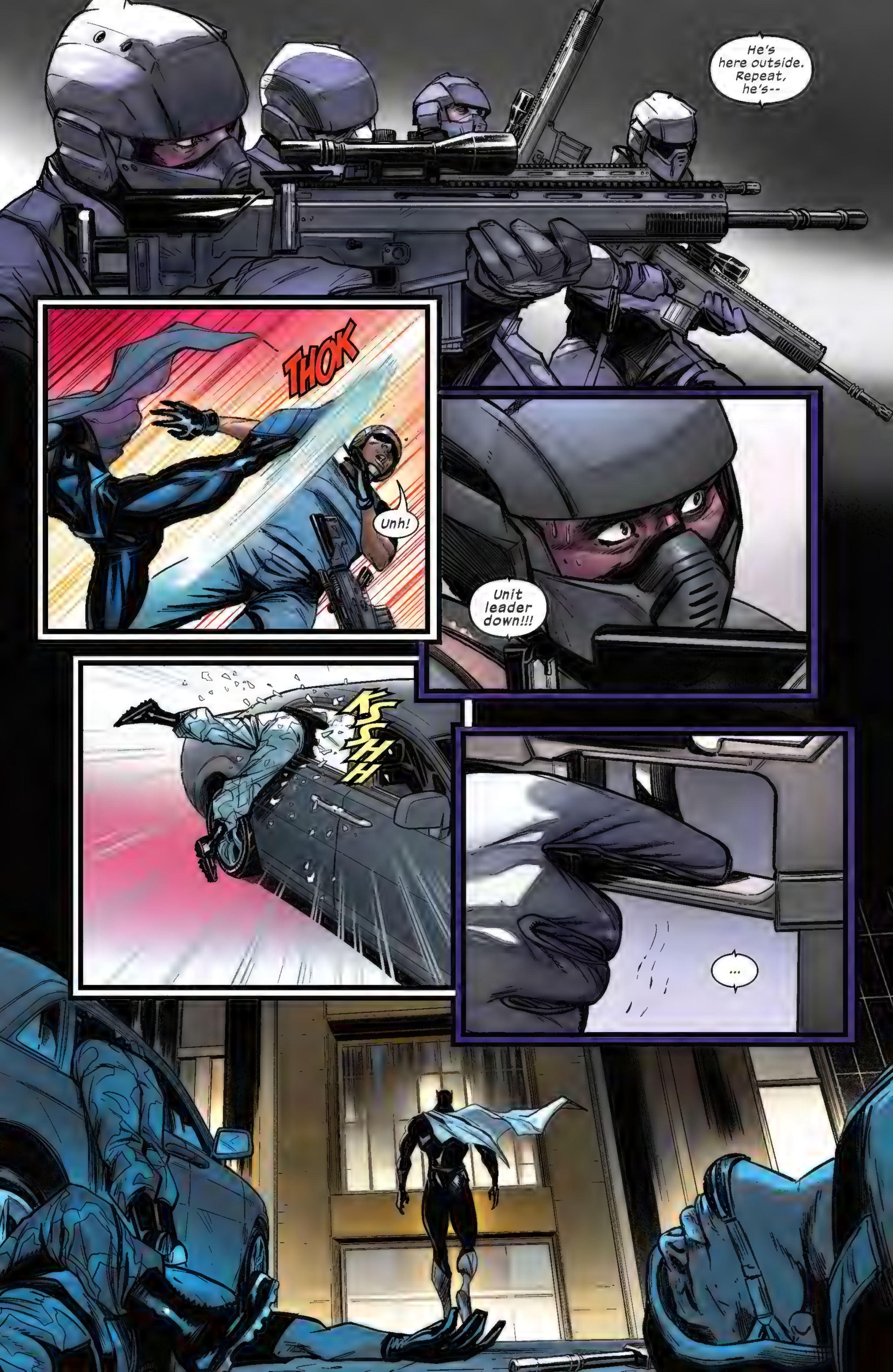

This flesh won’t embrace us for long, X’akal.
We are here to seed our kingdom. To claim what we have given. To force them to serve.
And we shall, Z’non.
My love, why do we speak their language? Why not our own?
Because this is their world.
When it is ours, we will speak in our melodies.
We wish to help you claim it.

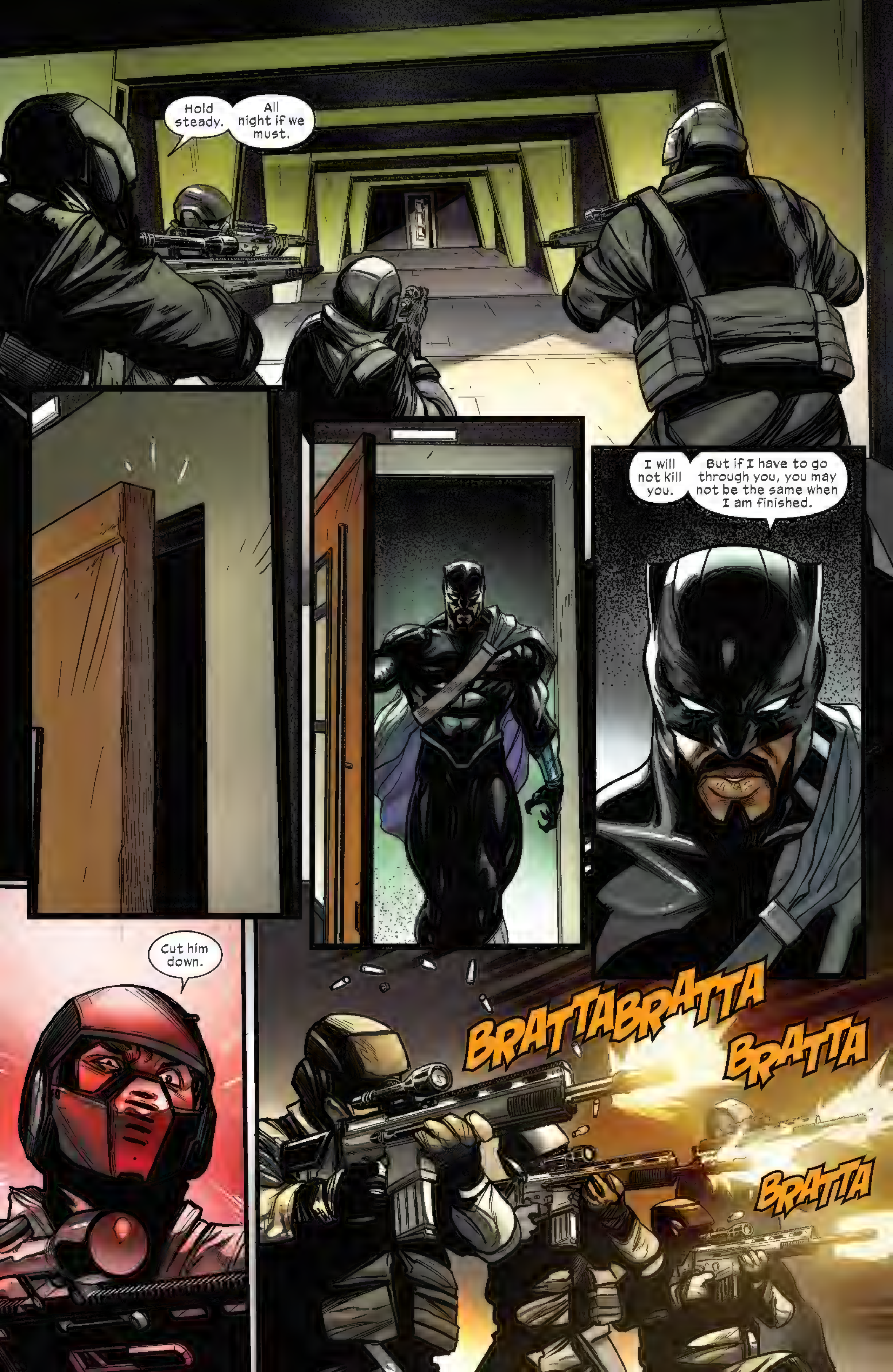

Host of the Heavens.
Grant me, Matron Imala of the Vodu-Khan, audience.
I could kill you with a word.
Then it is nothing for you to listen to *my* words.
Please.
Enough from you--
Wait.
Rise.
And speak.

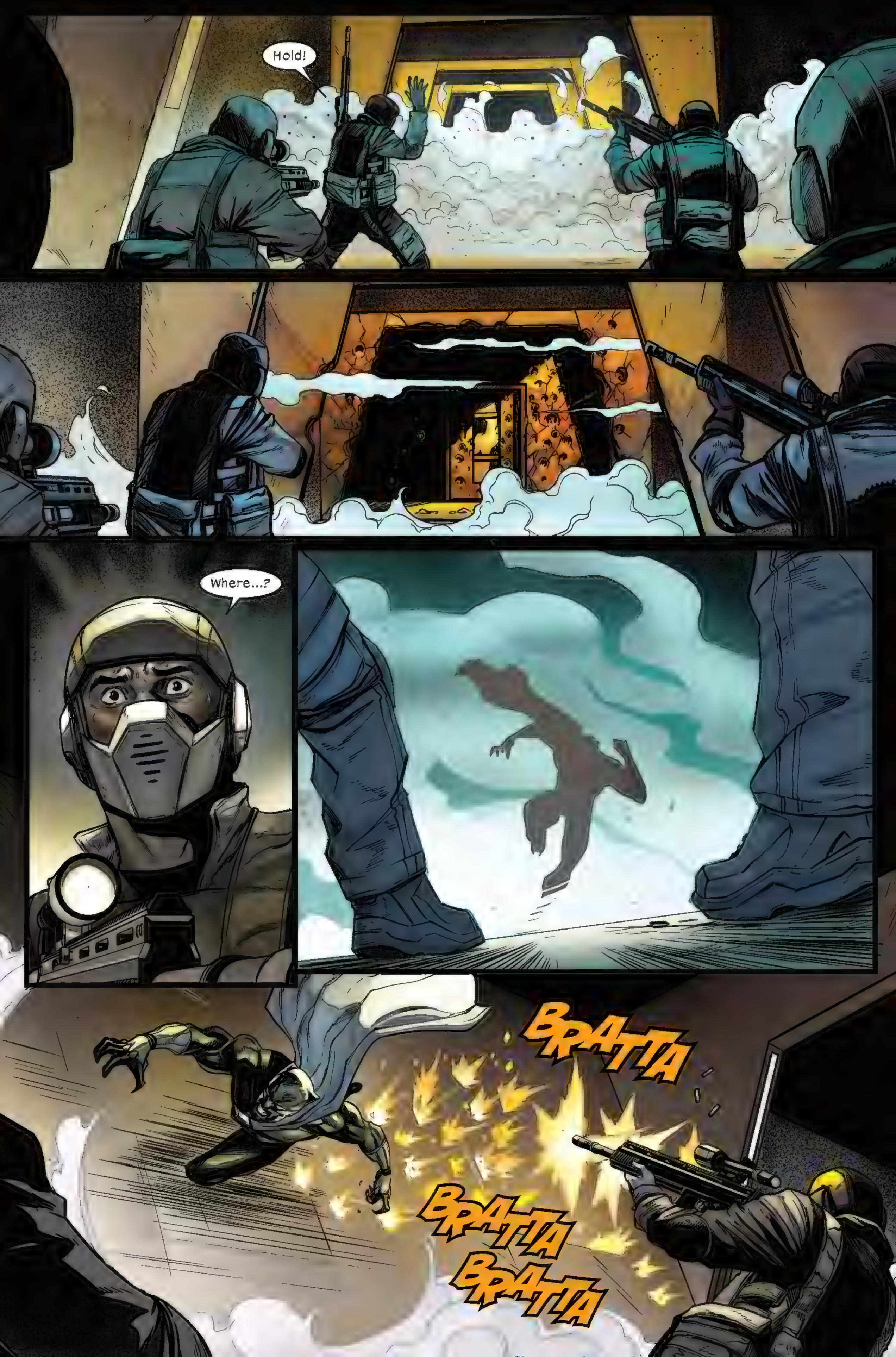

My gratitude.
My sect has worshipped your truth for generations. I am the last in a line that have silently awaited your return.
And that matters not to me.
You have a moment to make me care about your life.
Use it wisely, woman.
Wakanda has your *element.*
And I hold its *secrets.*

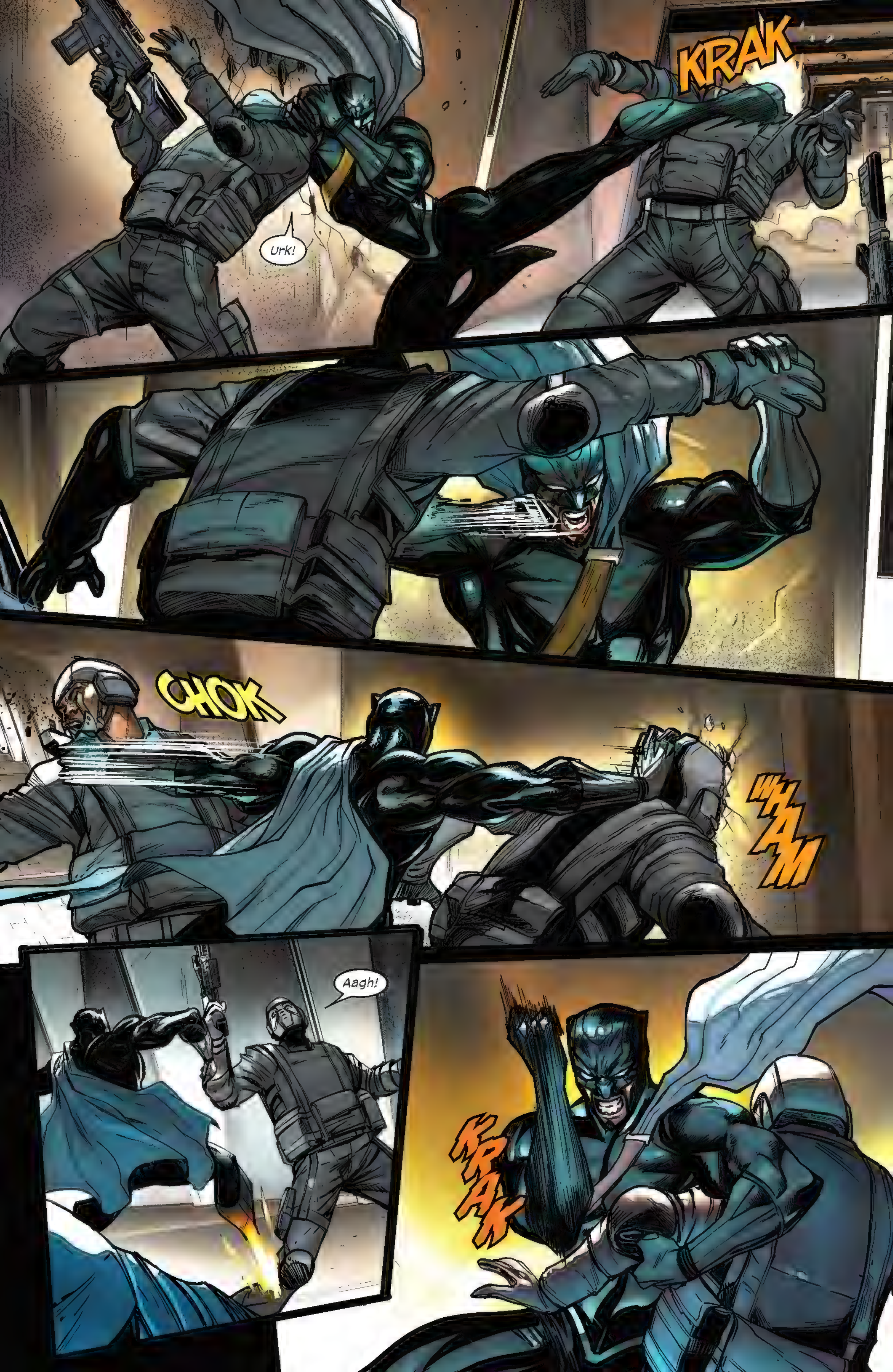

Ngggghn!
There is... a *body*...that is meant to... hold you...
Then I will march into Wakanda and claim it.
You can't--
--because it has yet to be *born.*
Let me share the *prophecy* with you.
And give you *purpose.*

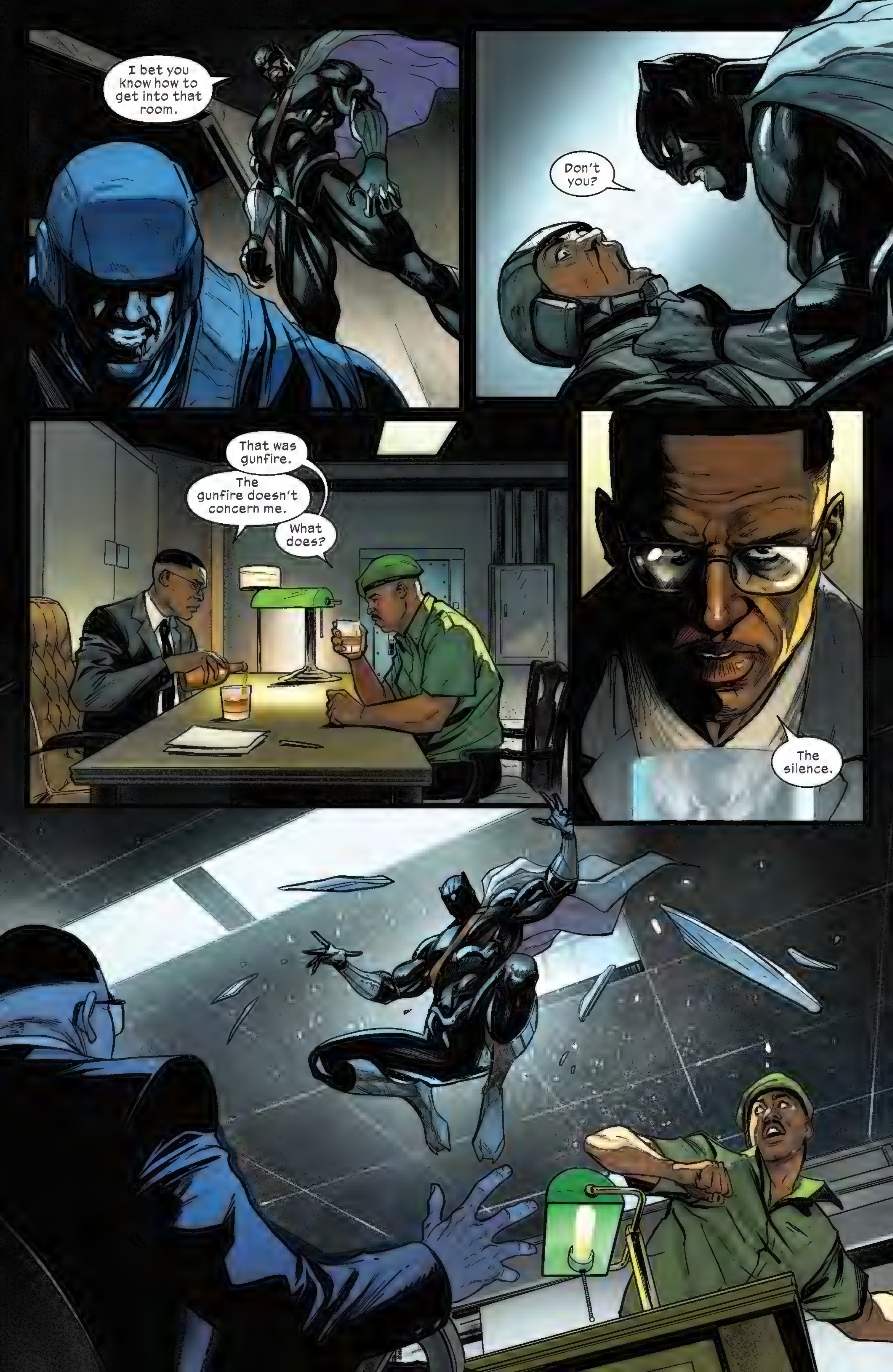

Nigeria.
You are secure, Defense Minister.
This masked man cannot find you here.
I'm not comforted by that.
"Then be comforted by the armed men stationed in the hallway outside."
Sit, Minister.
Have a drink of that bourbon you keep in your desk.
We'll *both* drink when I'm looking at this man's *dead body.*

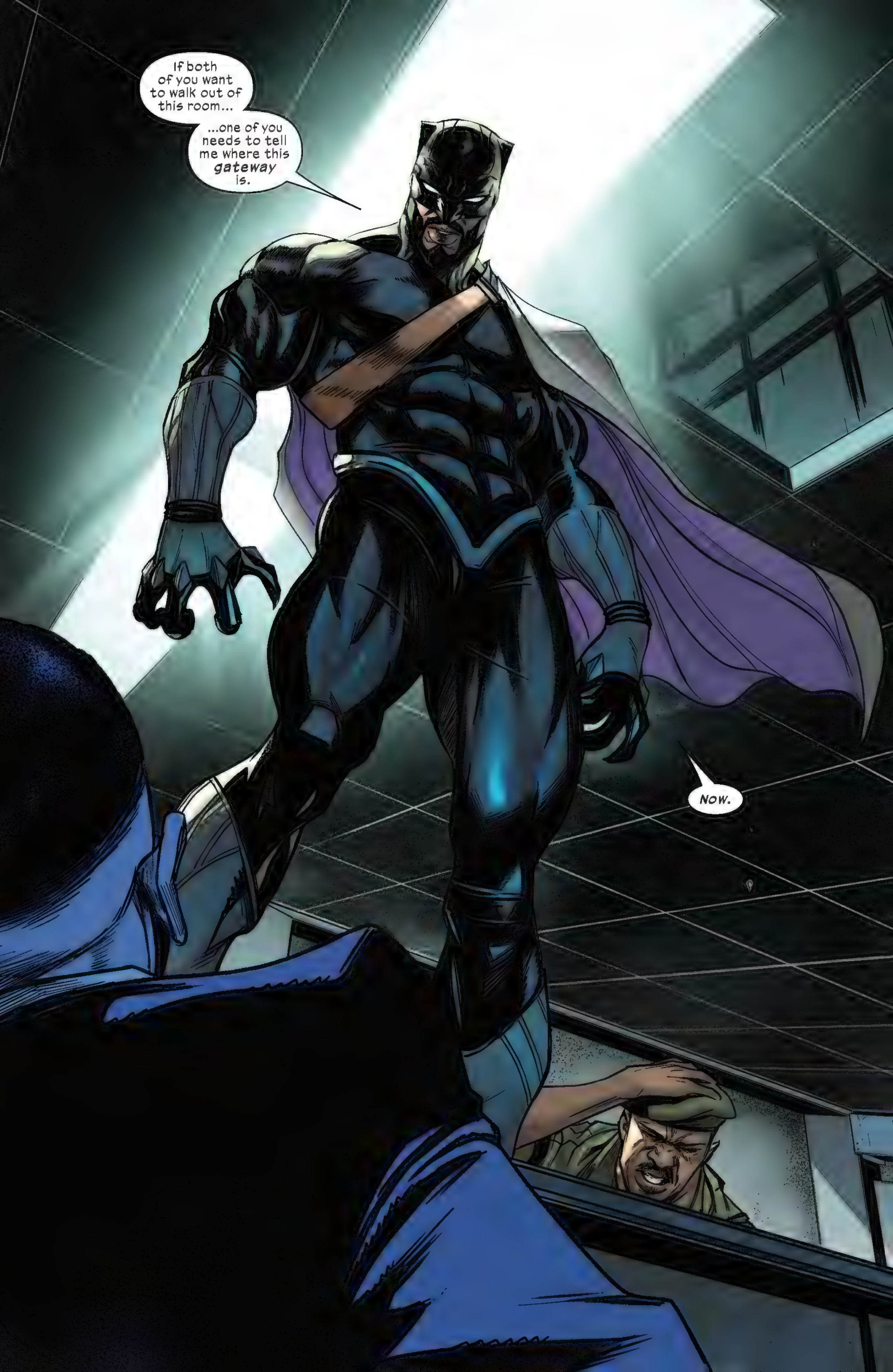

He's here outside. Repeat, he's--
THOK
Unh!
Unit leader down!!!
KSHHH
...

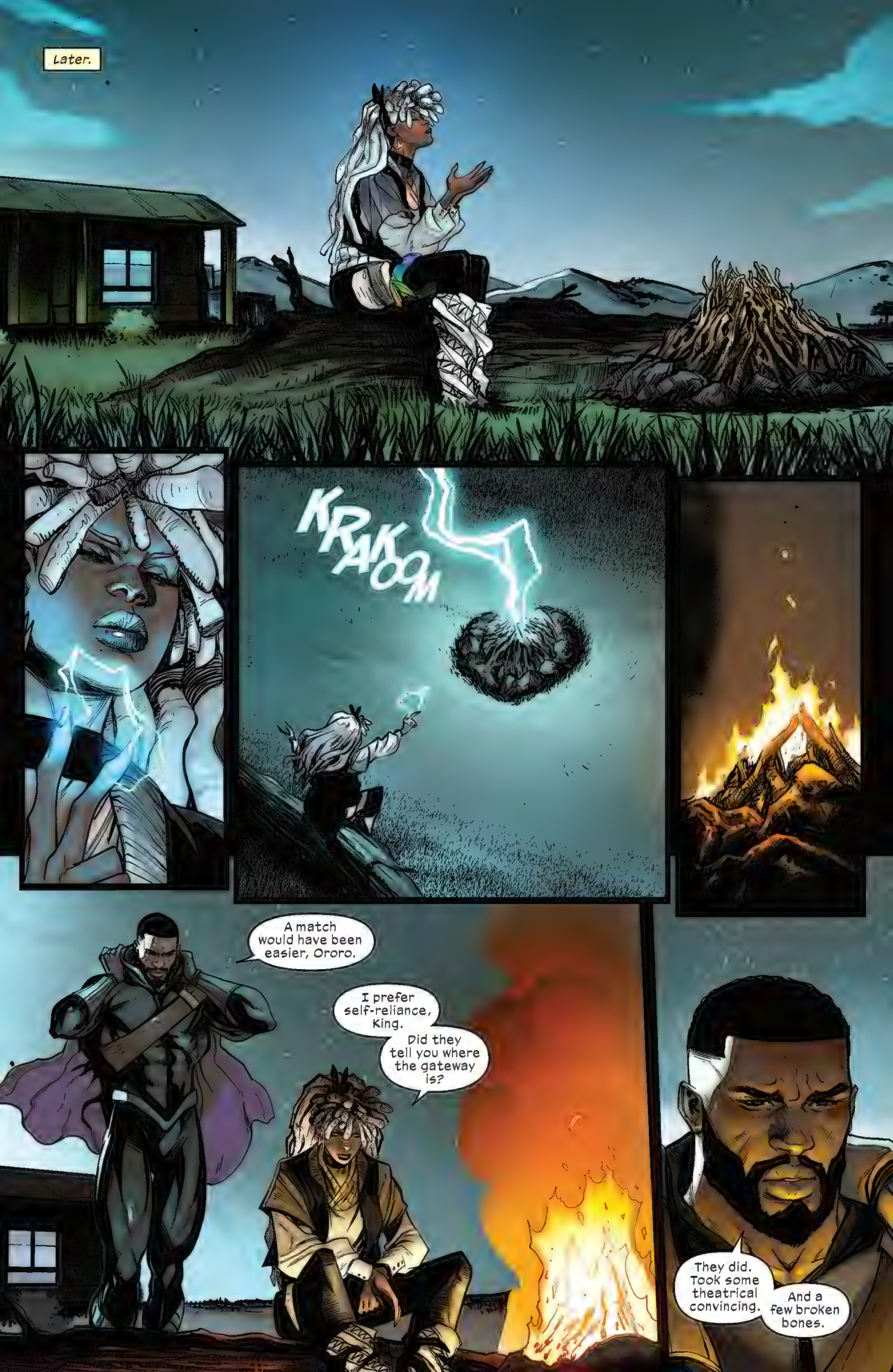

Hold steady.
All night if we must.
I will not kill you.
But if I have to go through you, you may not be the same when I am finished.
Cut him down.
BRATTABRATTA
BRATTA
BRATTA

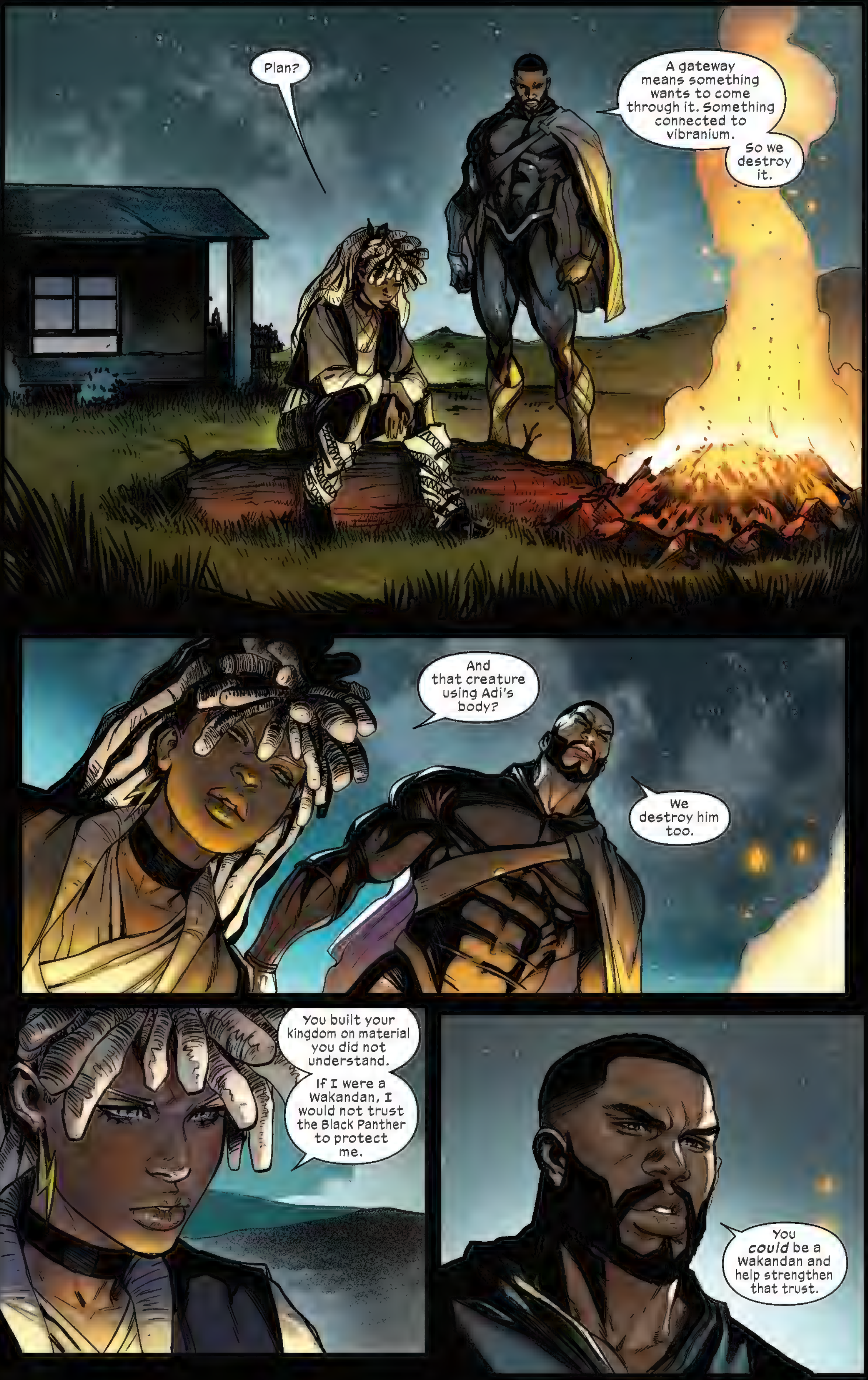

Hold!
Where...?
BRATTA
BRATTA
BRATTA

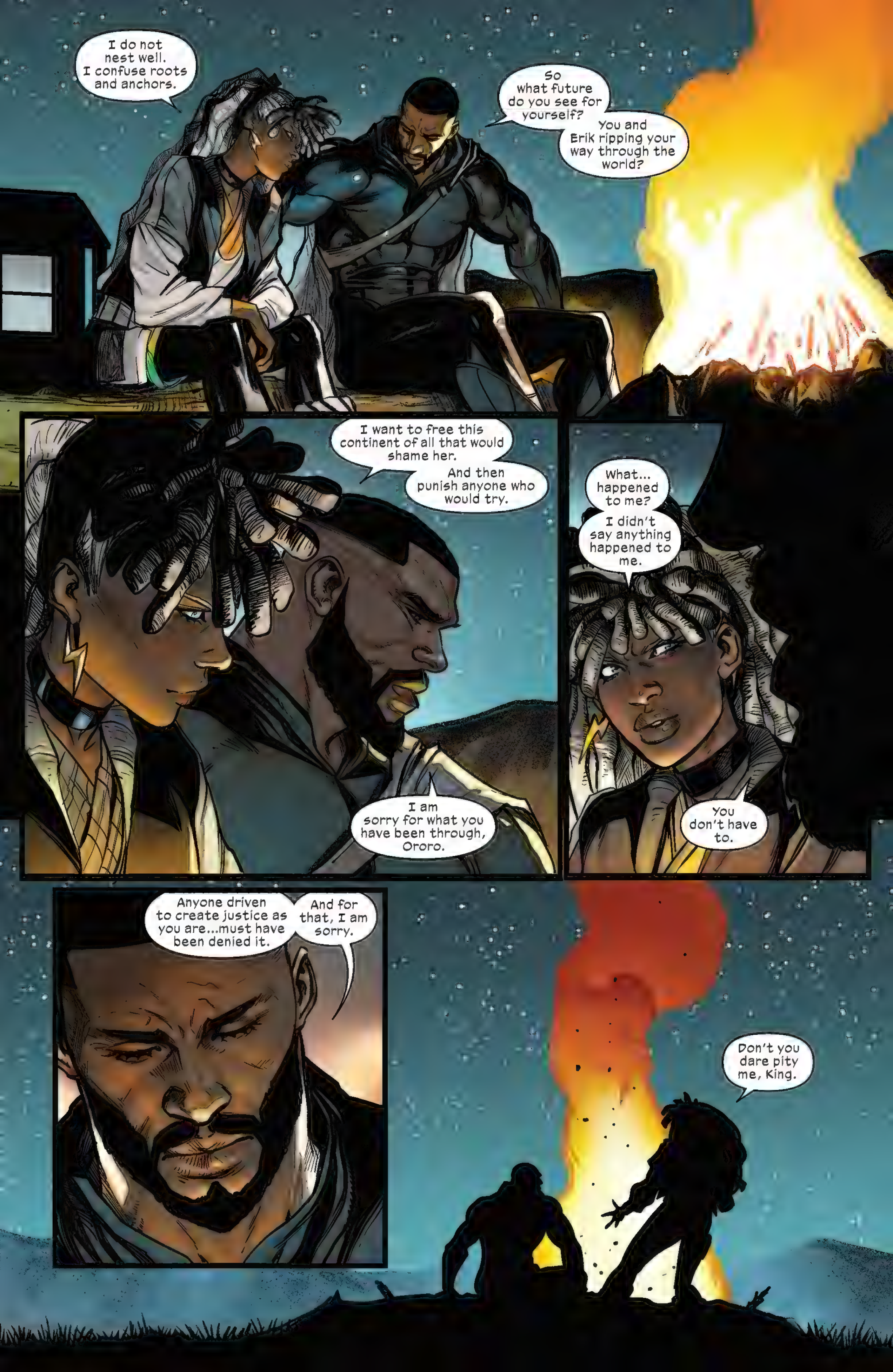

KRAK
Urk!
CHOK
WHAM
Aagh!
KRAK

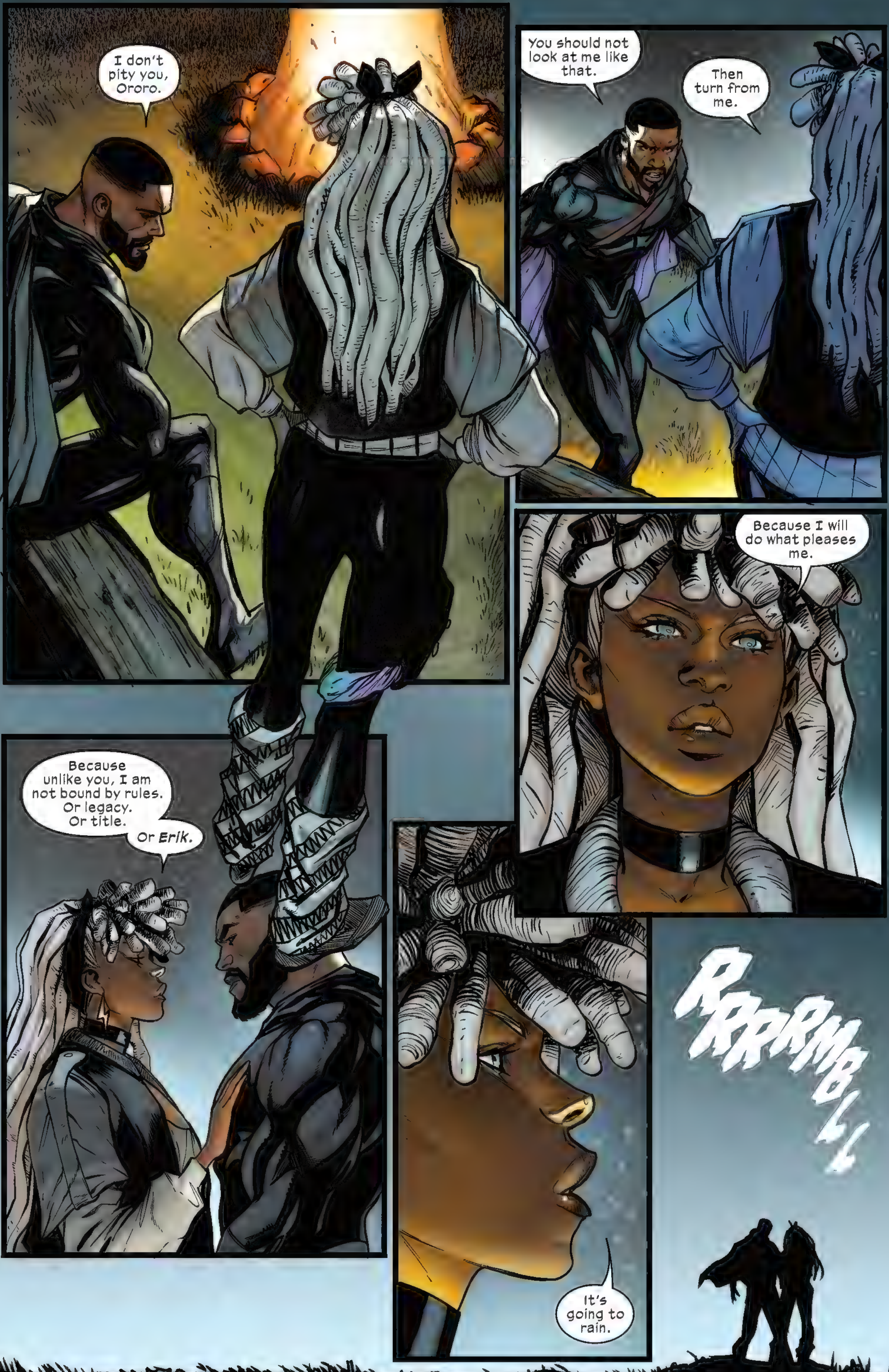

I bet you know how to get into that room.
Don't you?
That was gunfire.
The gunfire doesn't concern me.
What does?
The silence.

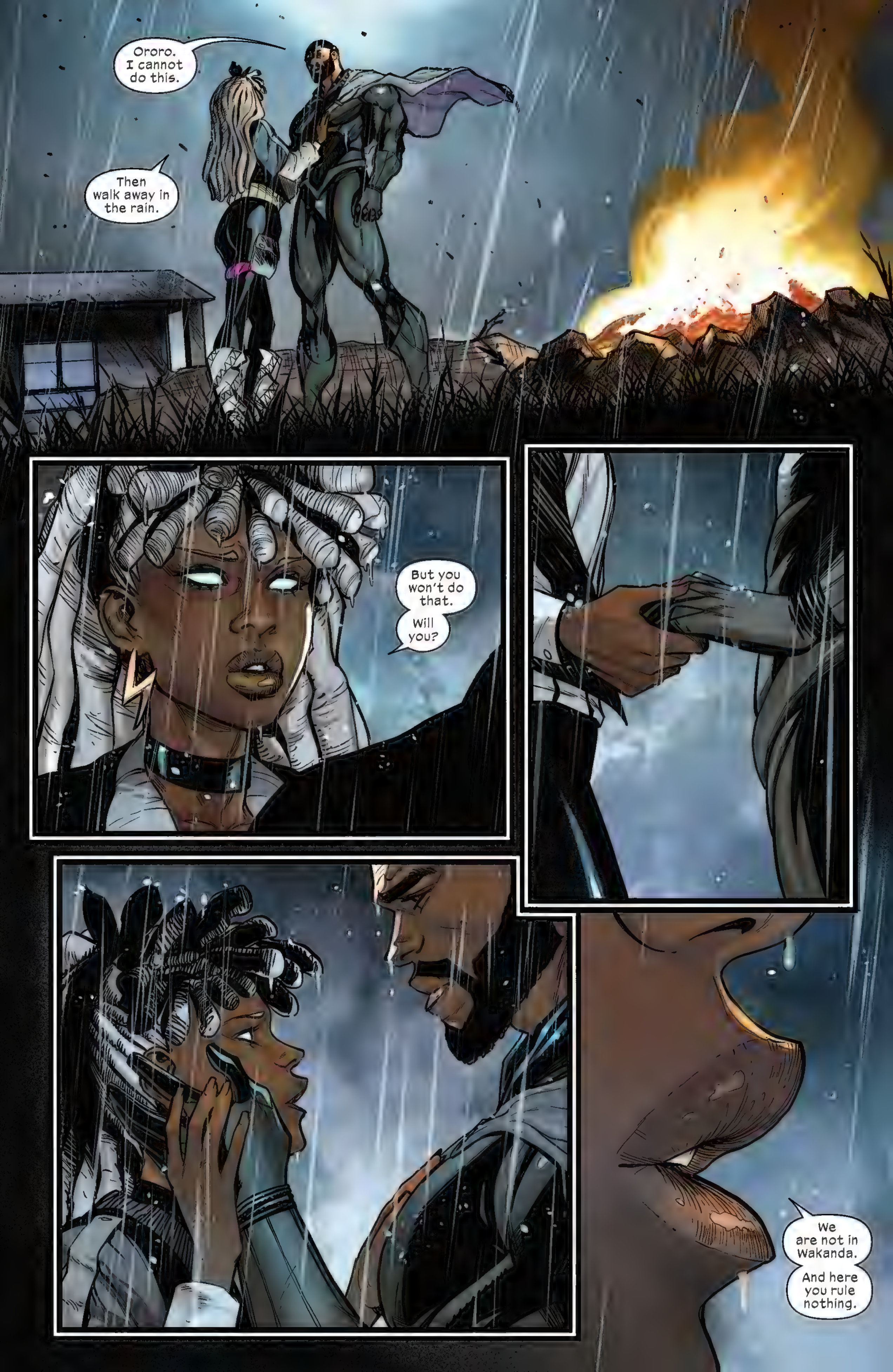

If both of you want to walk out of this room...
...one of you needs to tell me where this *gateway* is.
Now.

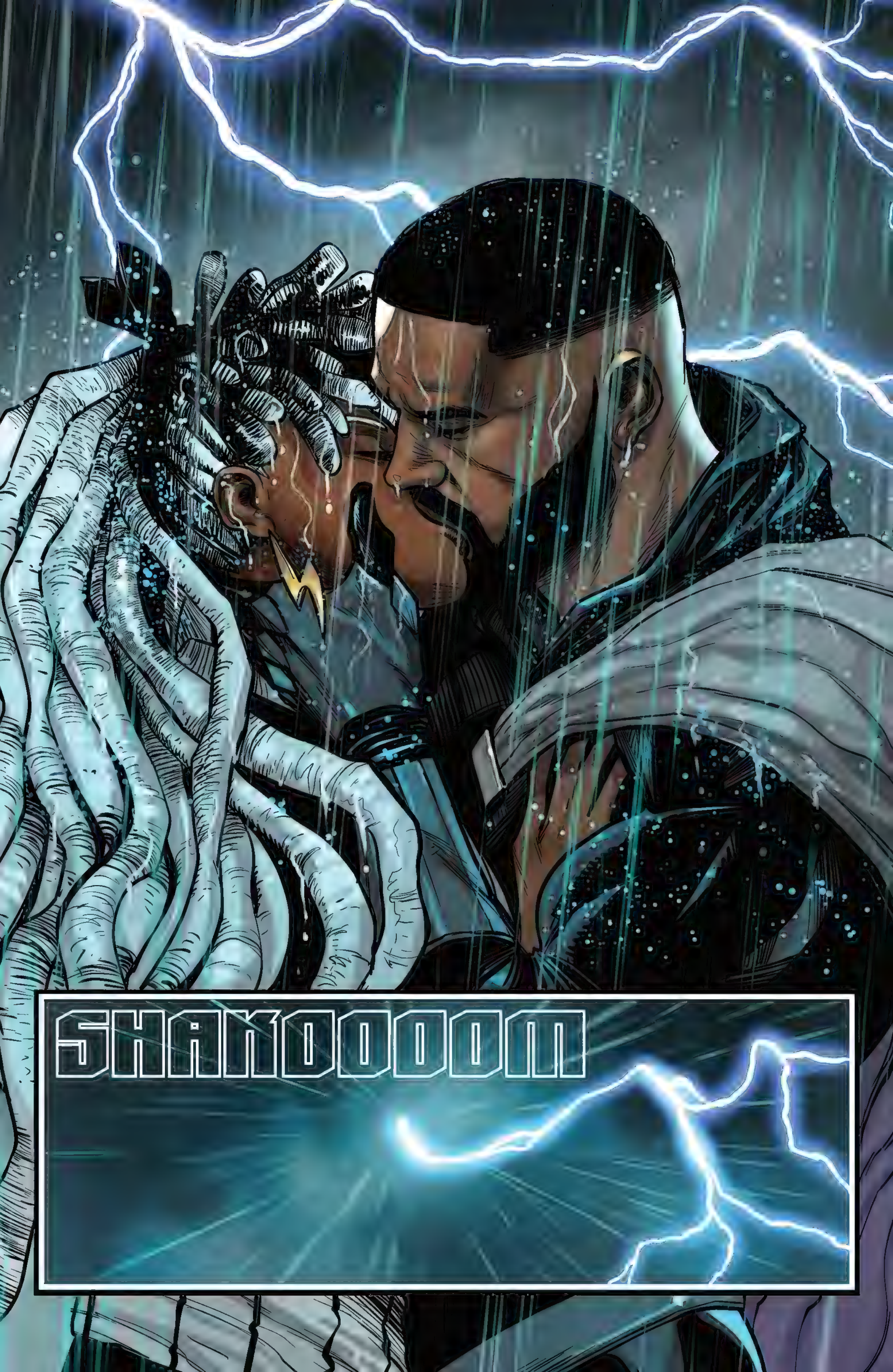

Later.
KRAKOOM
A match would have been easier, Ororo.
I prefer self-reliance, King.
Did they tell you where the gateway is?
They did. Took some theatrical convincing.
And a few broken bones.

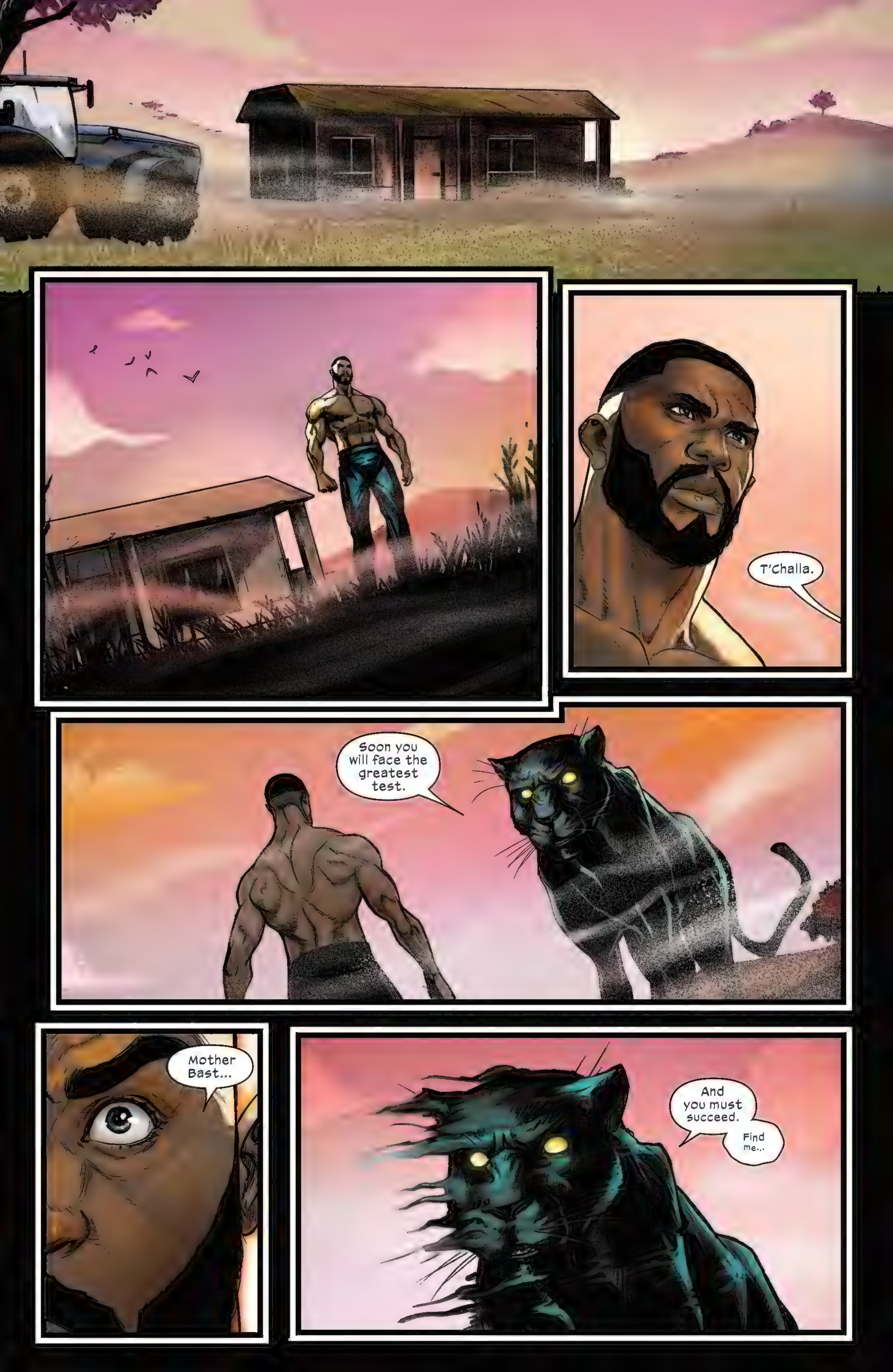

Plan?
A gateway means something wants to come through it. Something connected to vibranium.
So we destroy it.
And that creature using Adi's body?
We destroy him too.
You built your kingdom on material you did not understand.
If I were a Wakandan, I would not trust the Black Panther to protect me.
You *could* be a Wakandan and help strengthen that trust.

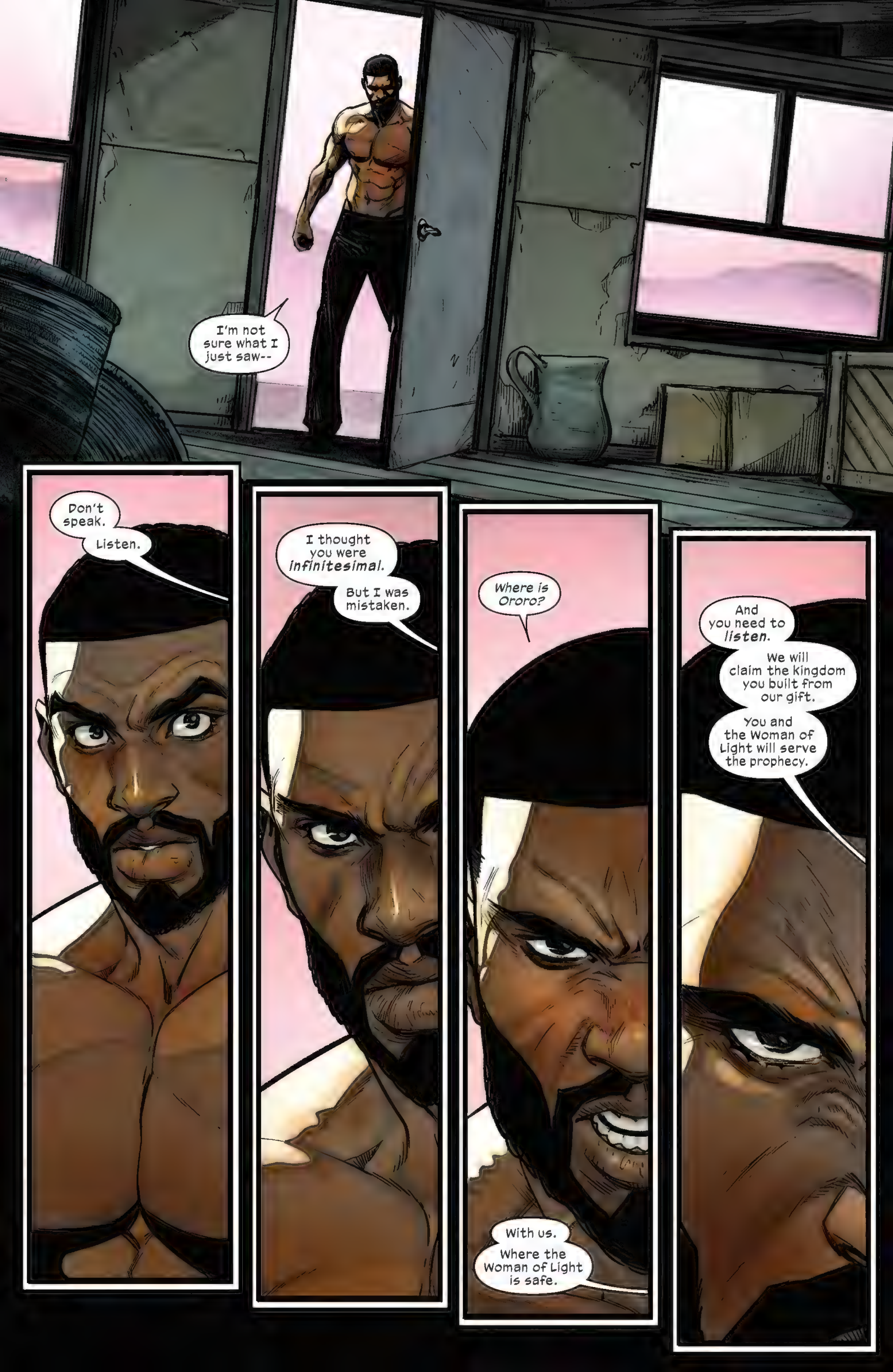

I do not nest well. I confuse roots and anchors.
So what future do you see for yourself?
You and Erik ripping your way through the world?
I want to free this continent of all that would shame her.
And then punish anyone who would try.
What... happened to me?
I didn't say anything happened to me.
I am sorry for what you have been through, Ororo.
You don't have to.
Anyone driven to create justice as you are...must have been denied it.
And for that, I am sorry.
Don't you dare pity me, King.

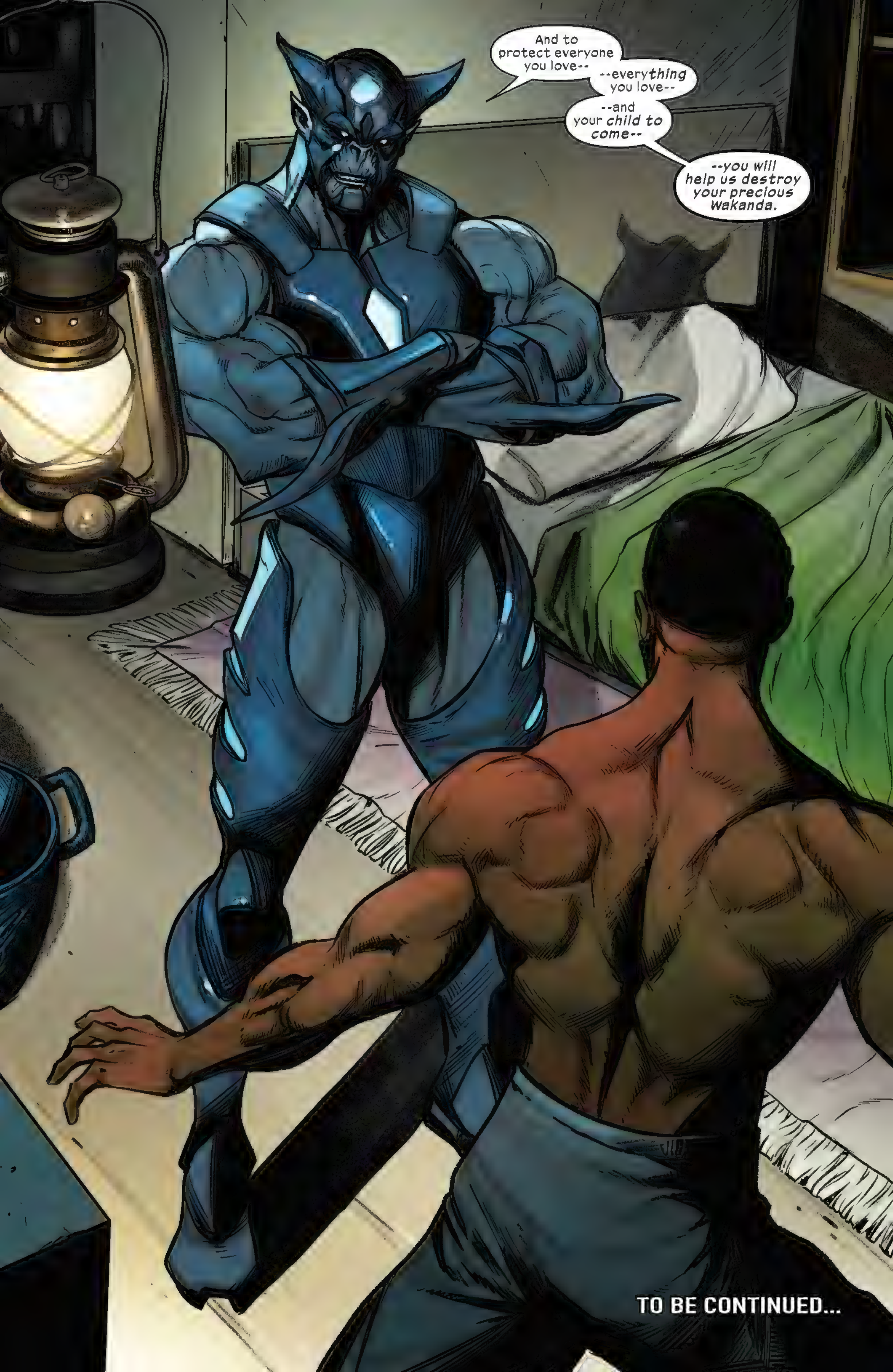

I don't pity you, Ororo.
You should not look at me like that.
Then turn from me.
Because I will do what pleases me.
Because unlike you, I am not bound by rules. Or legacy. Or title.
Or *Erik*.
It's going to rain.
RRRRMBLL


Ororo. I cannot do this.
Then walk away in the rain.
But you won't do that.
Will you?
We are not in Wakanda.
And here you rule nothing.


SHAKOOOOM


T'Challa.
Soon you will face the greatest test.
Mother Bast...
And you must succeed.
Find me...


I'm not sure what I just saw--
Don't speak.
Listen.
I thought you were *infinitesimal.*
But I was mistaken.
Where is Ororo?
With us.
Where the Woman of Light is safe.
And you need to *listen.*
We will claim the kingdom you built from our gift.
You and the Woman of Light will serve the prophecy.


And to protect everyone you love--
--every*thing* you love--
--and your *child to come*--
--you will help us destroy your precious Wakanda.
TO BE CONTINUED...

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BLACK PANTHER CREATED BY **STAN LEE** & **JACK KIRBY**

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MARVEL
19
ULTIMATE
BLACK PANTHER
HILL | NIETO | CURIEL

ON SALE IN **AUGUST**

ON SALE THIS MONTH

MARVEL
19
ULTIMATE
SPIDER-MAN

ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN #19

BY **JONATHAN HICKMAN**
& **MARCO CHECCHETTO**

MARVEL
17
ULTIMATE
X-MEN

ULTIMATE X-MEN #17

BY **PEACH MOMOKO**

MARVEL
14
THE
ULTIMATES

ULTIMATES #14

BY **DENIZ CAMP**
& **JUAN FRIGERI**

MARVEL
7
ULTIMATE
WOLVERINE

ULTIMATE WOLVERINE #7

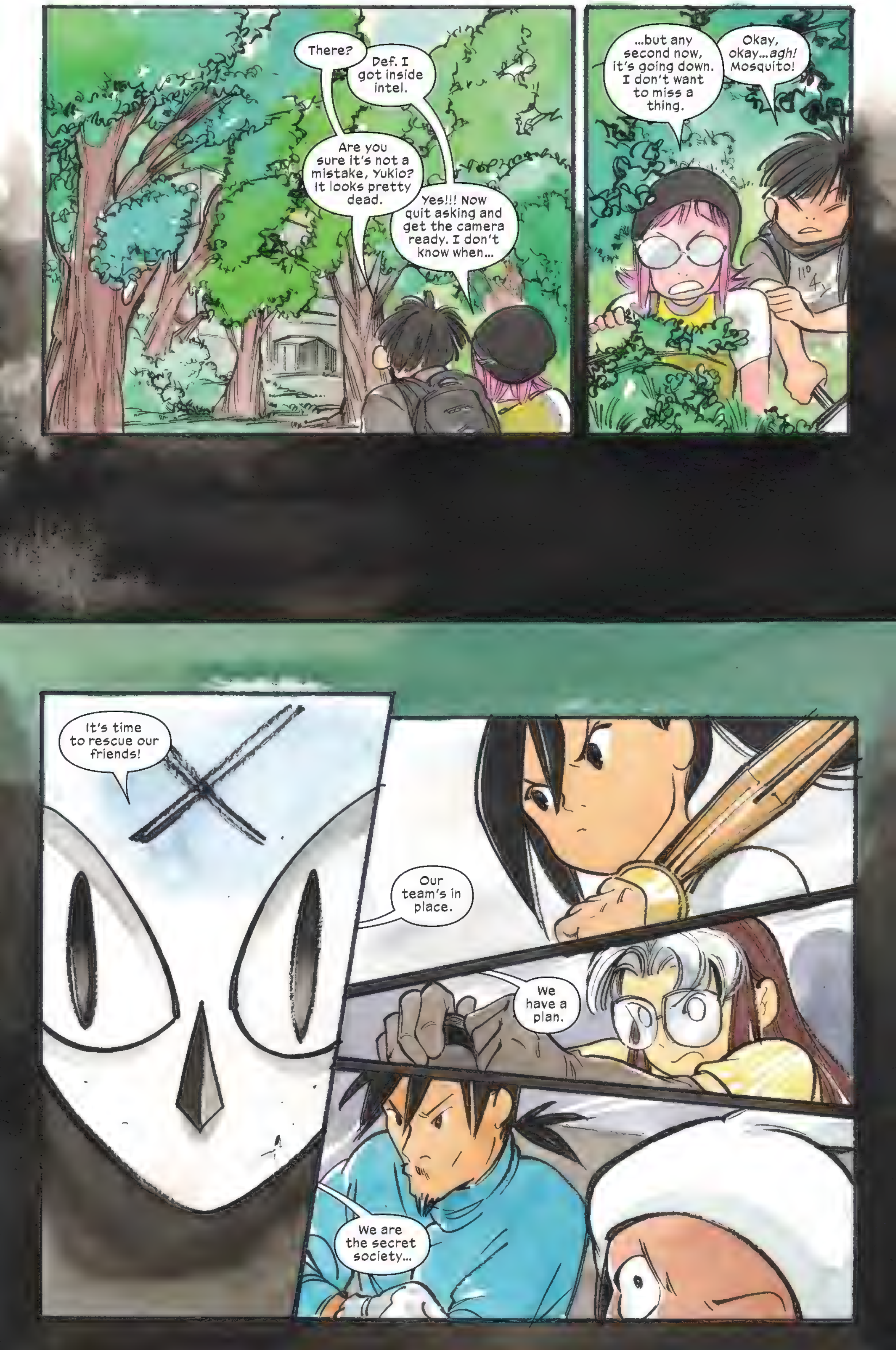
BY **CHRIS CONDON** &
ALESSANDRO CAPPUCCIO

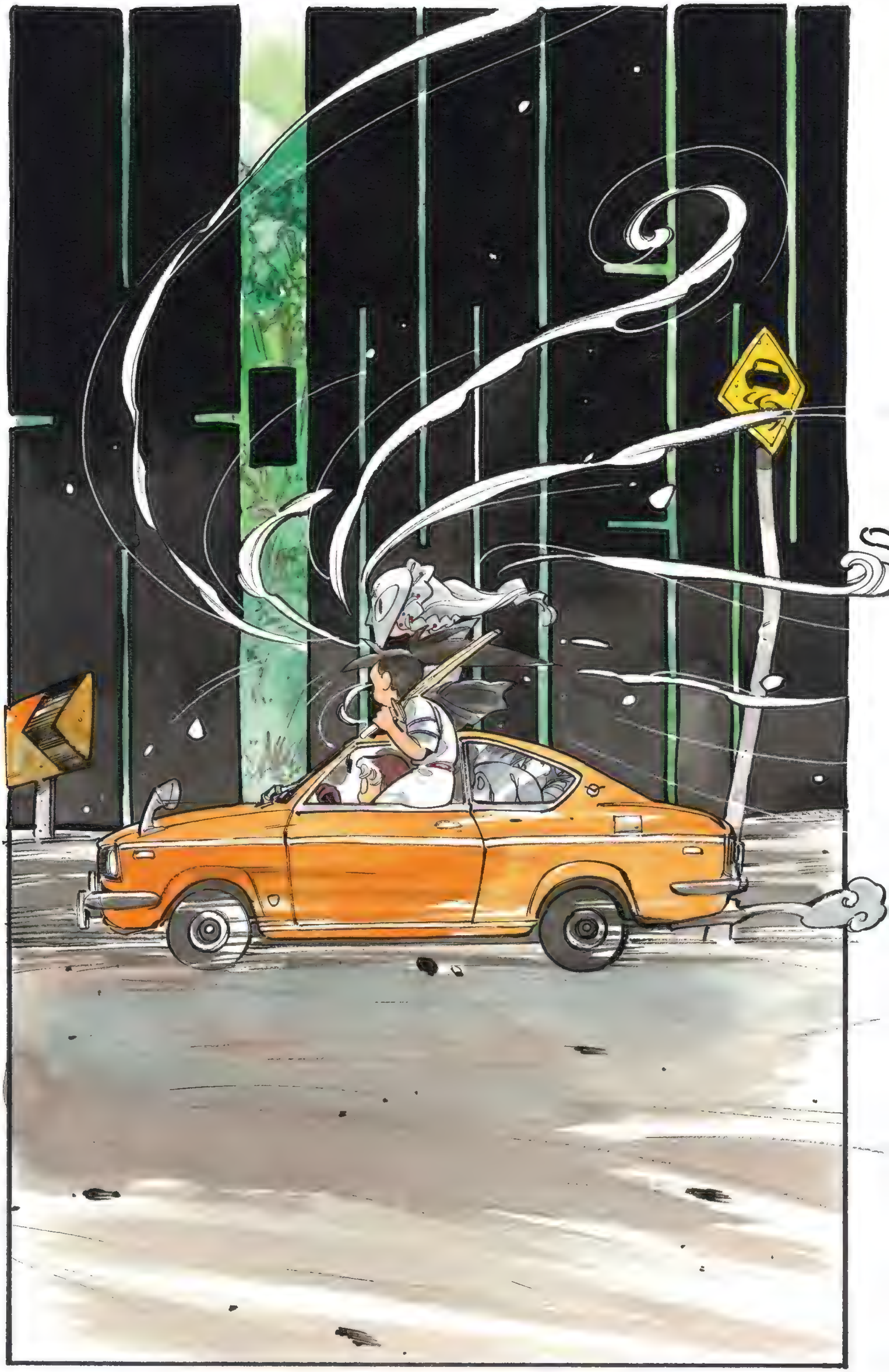
MARVEL
ULTIMATE
SPIDER-MAN: INCURSION

ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN: INCURSION #2

BY **DENIZ CAMP**, **CODY ZIGLAR**
& **JONAS SCHARF**

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU! EMAIL US AT **ULTIMATEOFFICE@MARVEL.COM** AND MARK YOUR LETTERS **"OKAY TO PRINT"**!


There?
Def. I got inside intel.
Are you sure it's not a mistake, Yukio? It looks pretty dead.
Yes!!! Now quit asking and get the camera ready. I don't know when...
...but any second now, it's going down. I don't want to miss a thing.
Okay, okay...*agh!* Mosquito!
It's time to rescue our friends!
Our team's in place.
We have a plan.
We are the secret society...



17

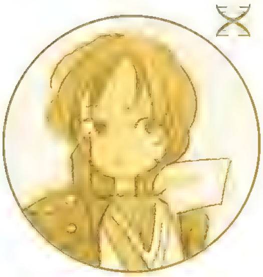
A diabolical genius known as **THE MAKER** used time travel to create his ideal Earth by systematically preventing anyone from ever becoming a super hero—except for those on his secret **MAKER'S COUNCIL**, whom he stationed to rule over different regions of the world.

HI NO KUNI ("LAND OF THE SUN") became one of two hotbeds for mutant activity, but civilians were unaware until social media exploded with the story of **CHILDREN OF THE ATOM**, a cult for mutant youth led by a zealot known as **MAESTER**, after **KANON SAINOUCHI** and her police officer brother, **TATSUYA**, found a body containing a suitcase.

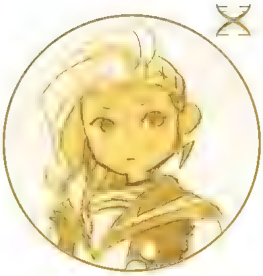
NICO MINORU went undercover as a member of Children of the Atom—and finally discovered that her missing friend, **HISAKO ICHIKI (ARMOR)**, was held captive in the cult's underbelly thanks to her connection to **SHINOBU KAGEYAMA (SHADOW KING)**! Alongside **MEI IGARASHI (MAYSTORM)** and her group of masked **X-MEN**, it's time to stage a rescue...

ULTIMATE X-MEN

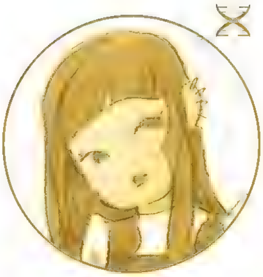
CAST:



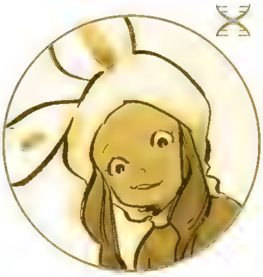
HISAKO ICHIKI
ARMOR



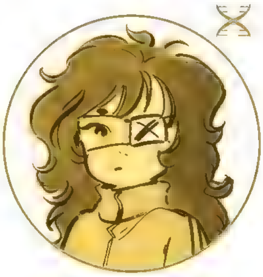
MEI IGARASHI
MAYSTORM



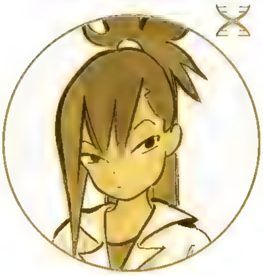
NICO MINORU
FLEDGLING PSYCHIC



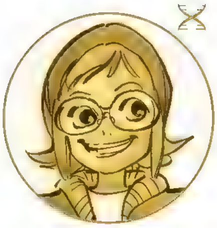
MORI
NICO'S FRIEND



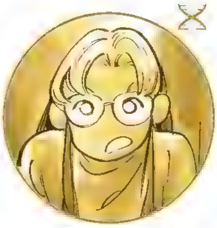
NATSU TSUKISHIMA
NICO'S FRIEND



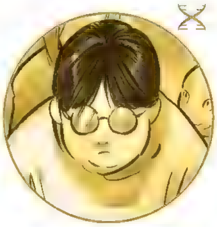
KANON SAINOUCHI
PSYLOCKE



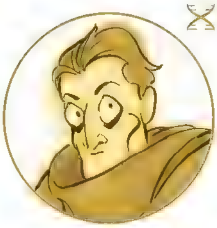
YUKIO
STREAMER



FUTABA
TATSUYA'S EX
AND ALLY

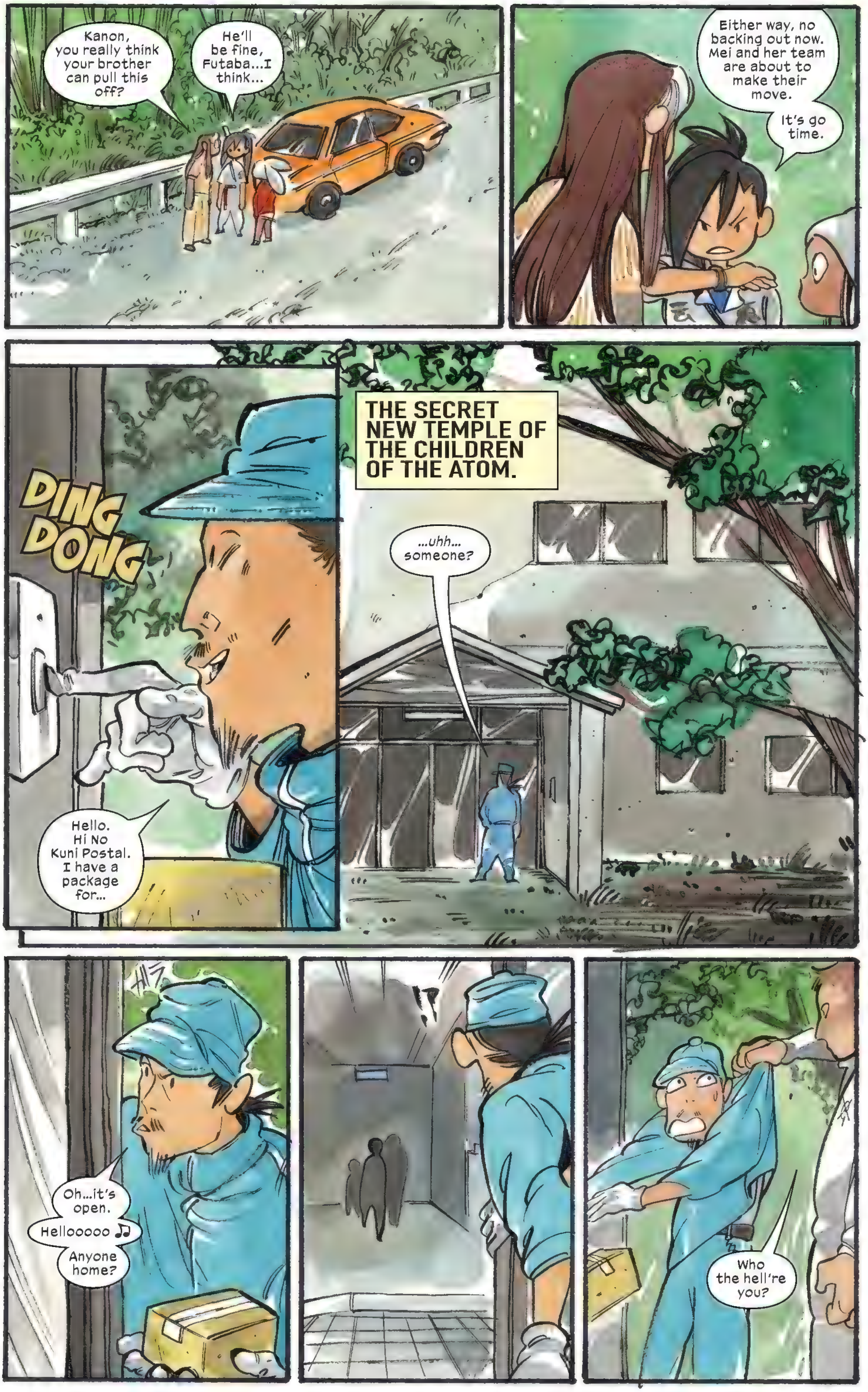


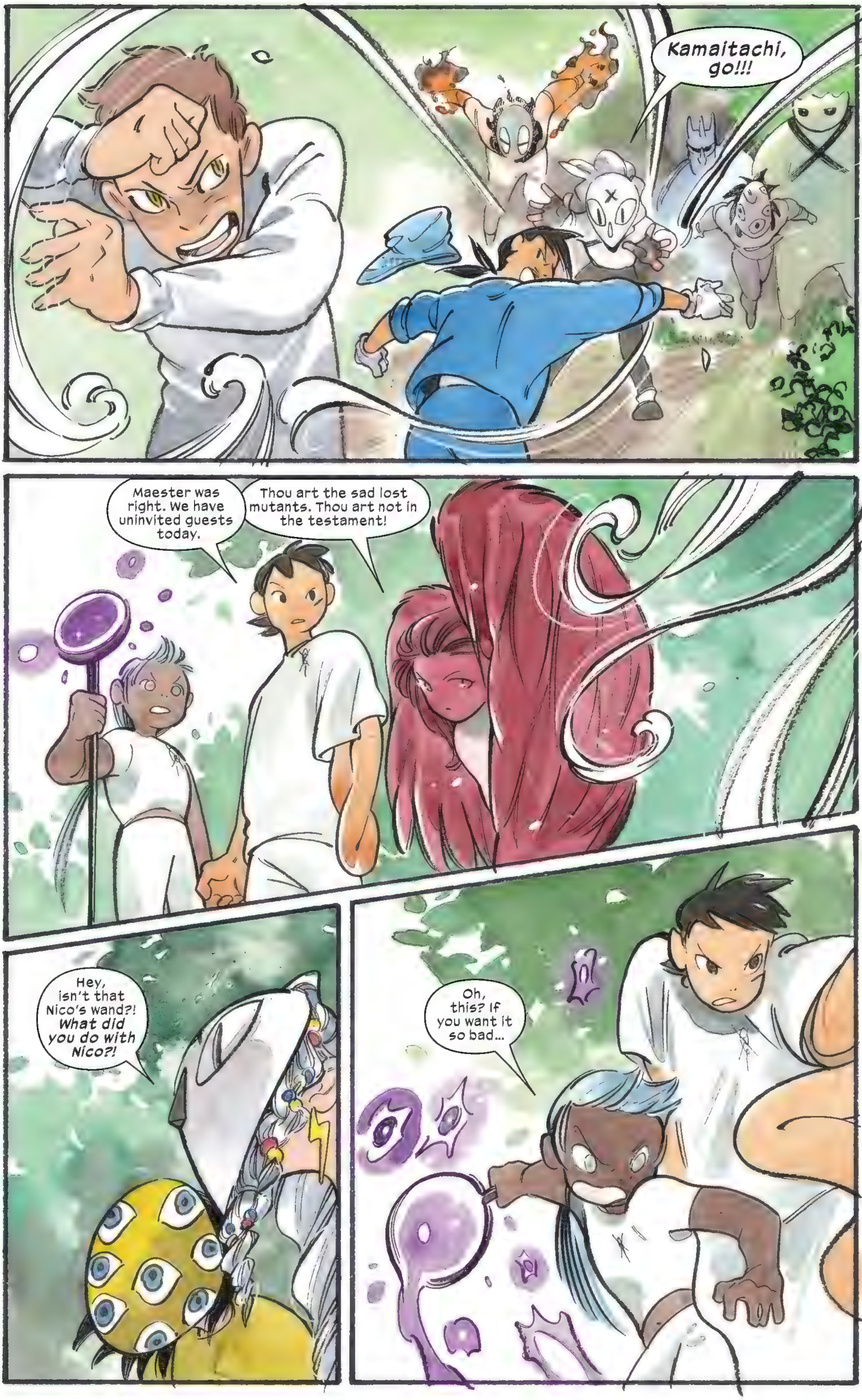
SHINOBU KAGEYAMA
SHADOW KING

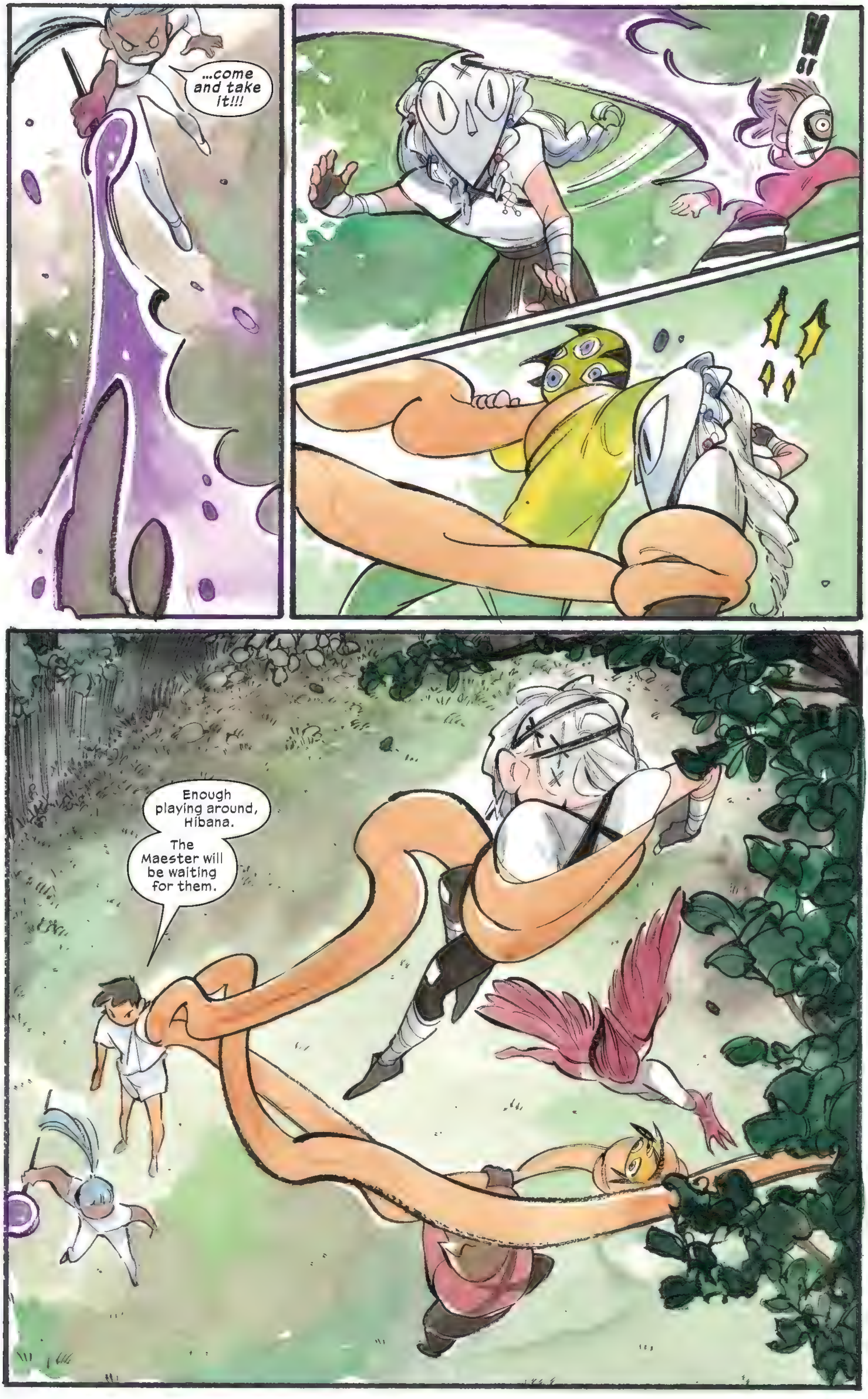


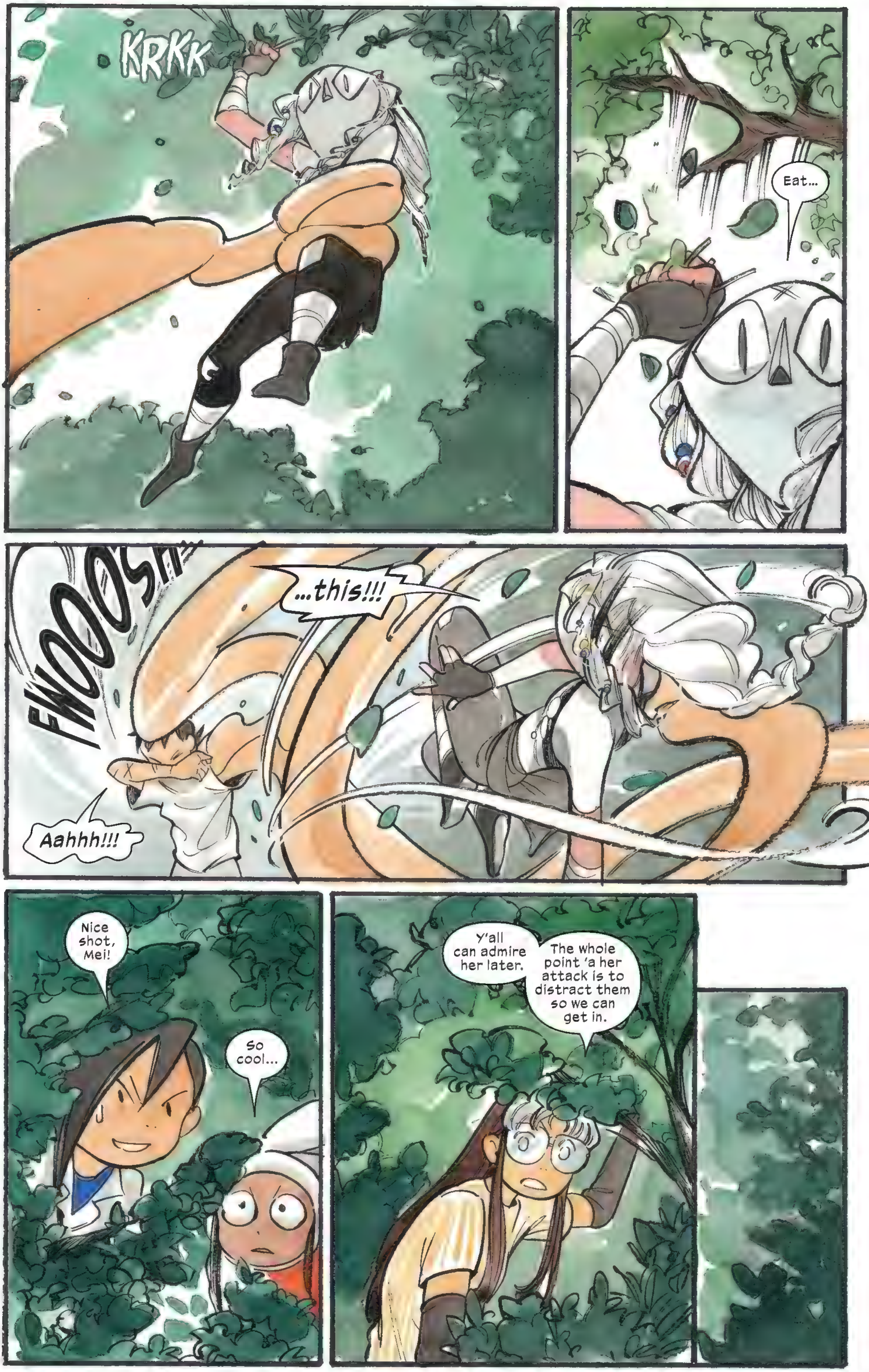
MAESTER
CHILDREN OF
THE ATOM LEADER

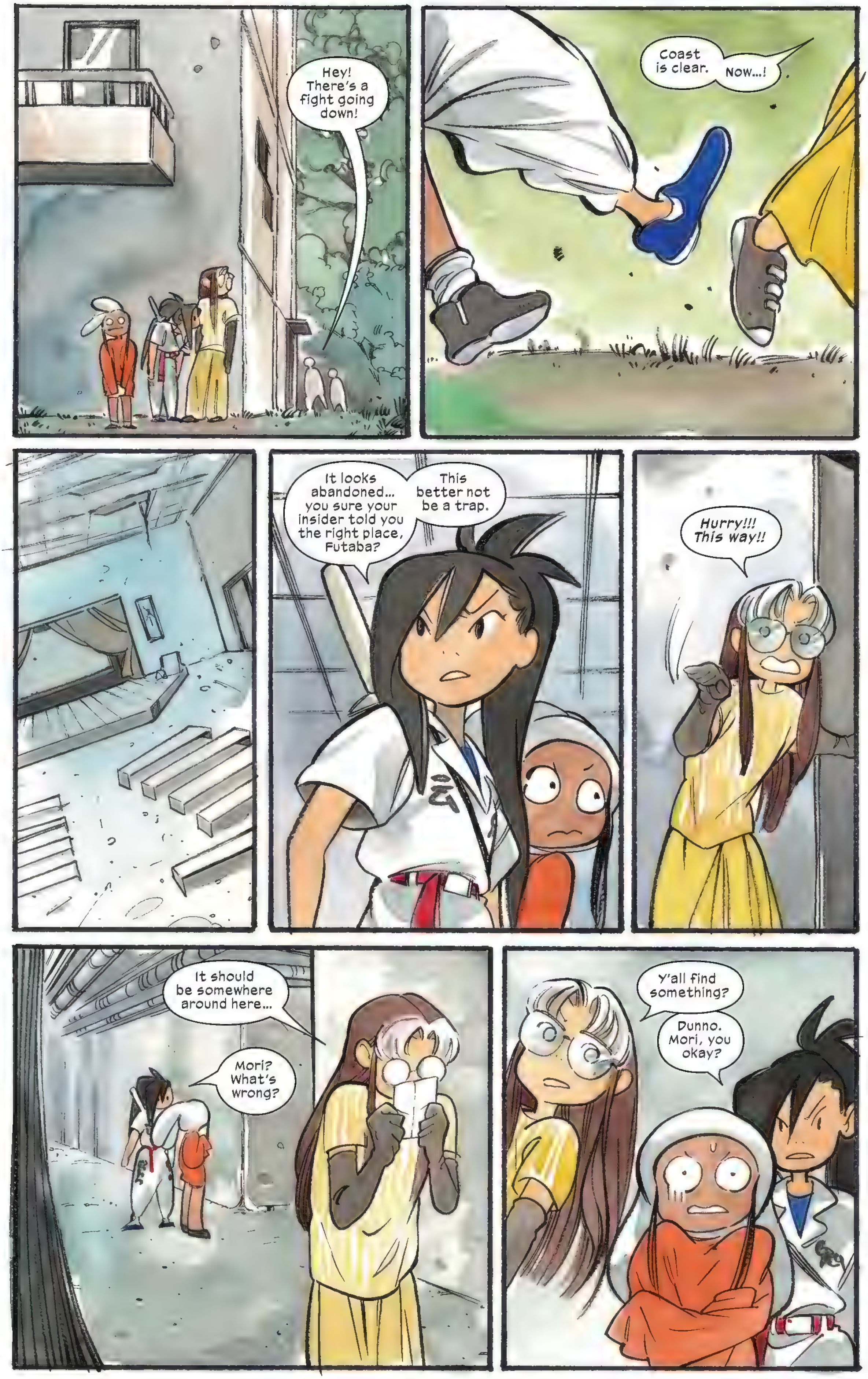
JULY 2025

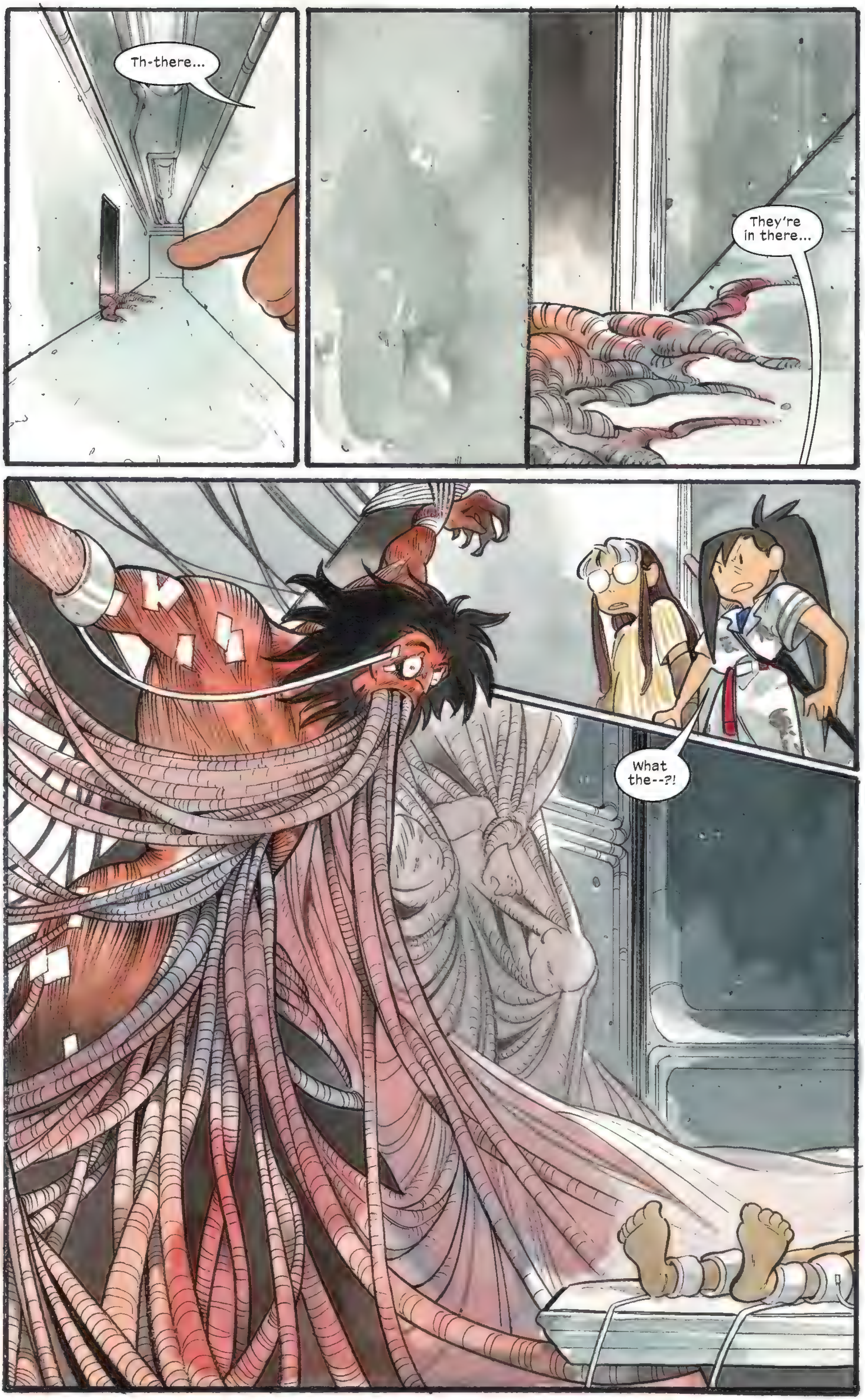

Kanon, you really think your brother can pull this off?
He'll be fine, Futaba...I think...
Either way, no backing out now. Mei and her team are about to make their move.
It's go time.
THE SECRET NEW TEMPLE OF THE CHILDREN OF THE ATOM.
DING DONG
Hello. Hi No Kuni Postal. I have a package for...
...uhh... someone?
Oh...it's open.
Hellooooo ♫
Anyone home?
!
Who the hell're you?

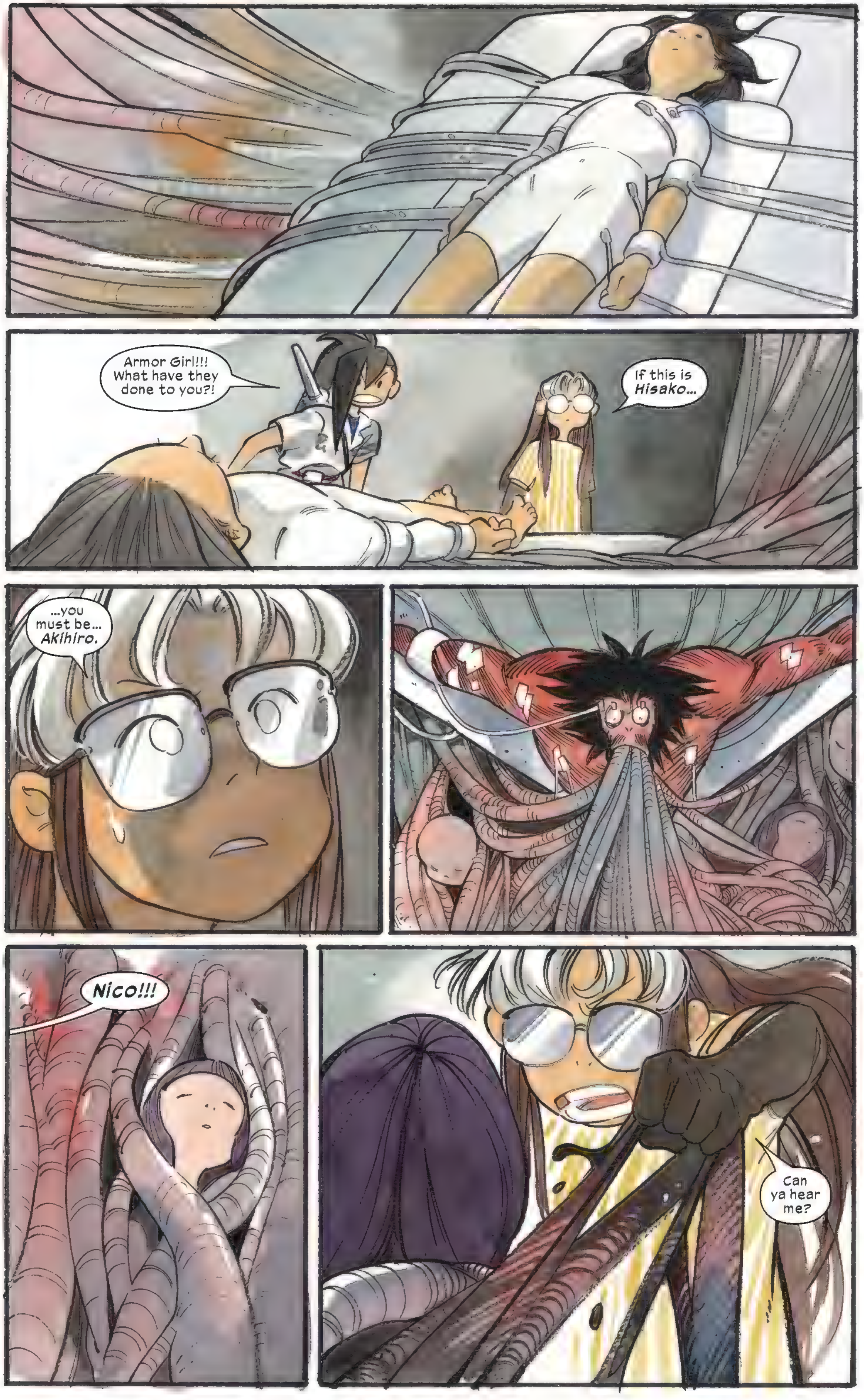

Kamaitachi, go!!!
Maester was right. We have uninvited guests today.
Thou art the sad lost mutants. Thou art not in the testament!
Hey, isn't that Nico's wand?! *What did you do with Nico?!*
Oh, this? If you want it so bad...

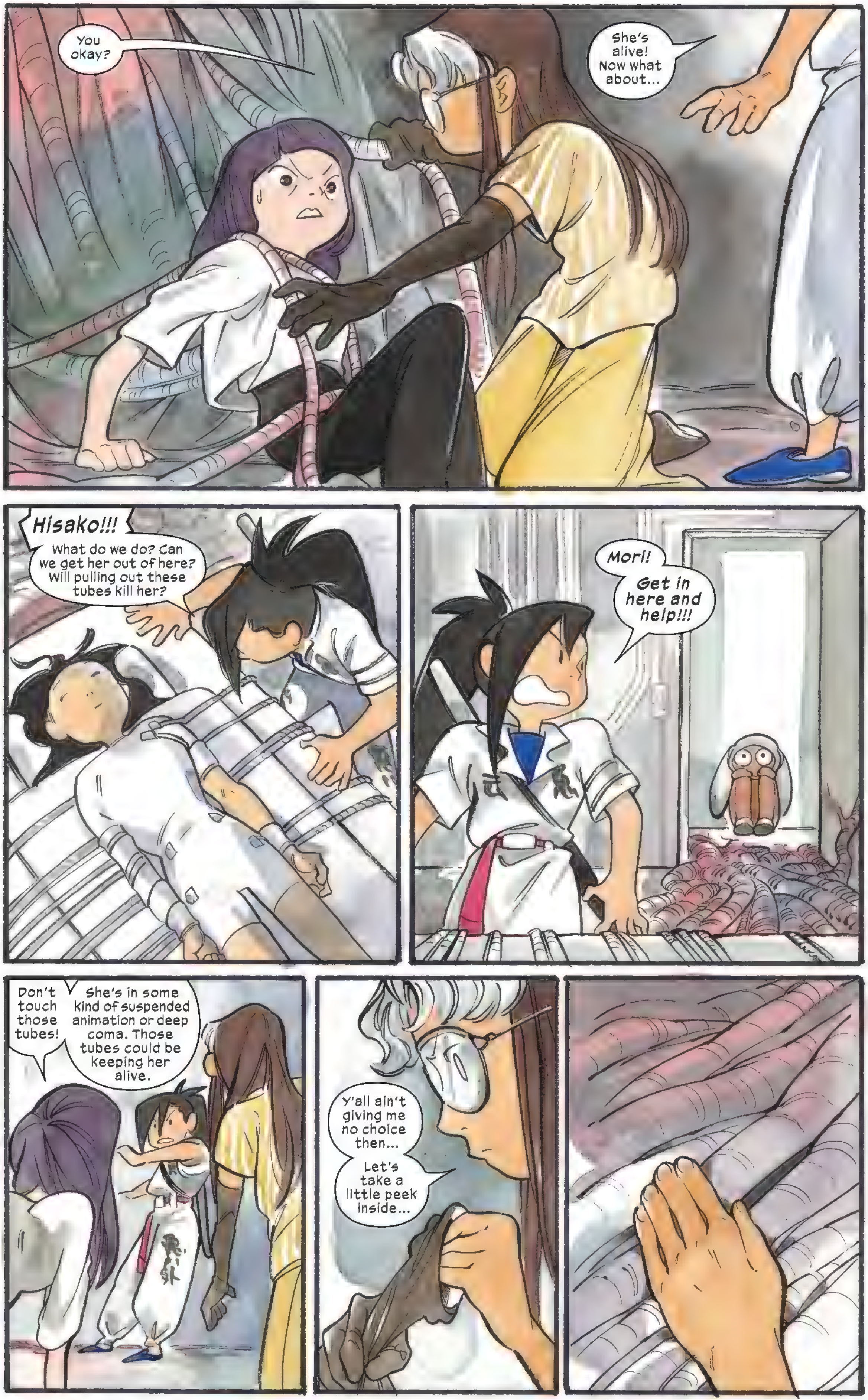

...come and take it!!!
!!
Enough playing around, Hibana.
The Maester will be waiting for them.

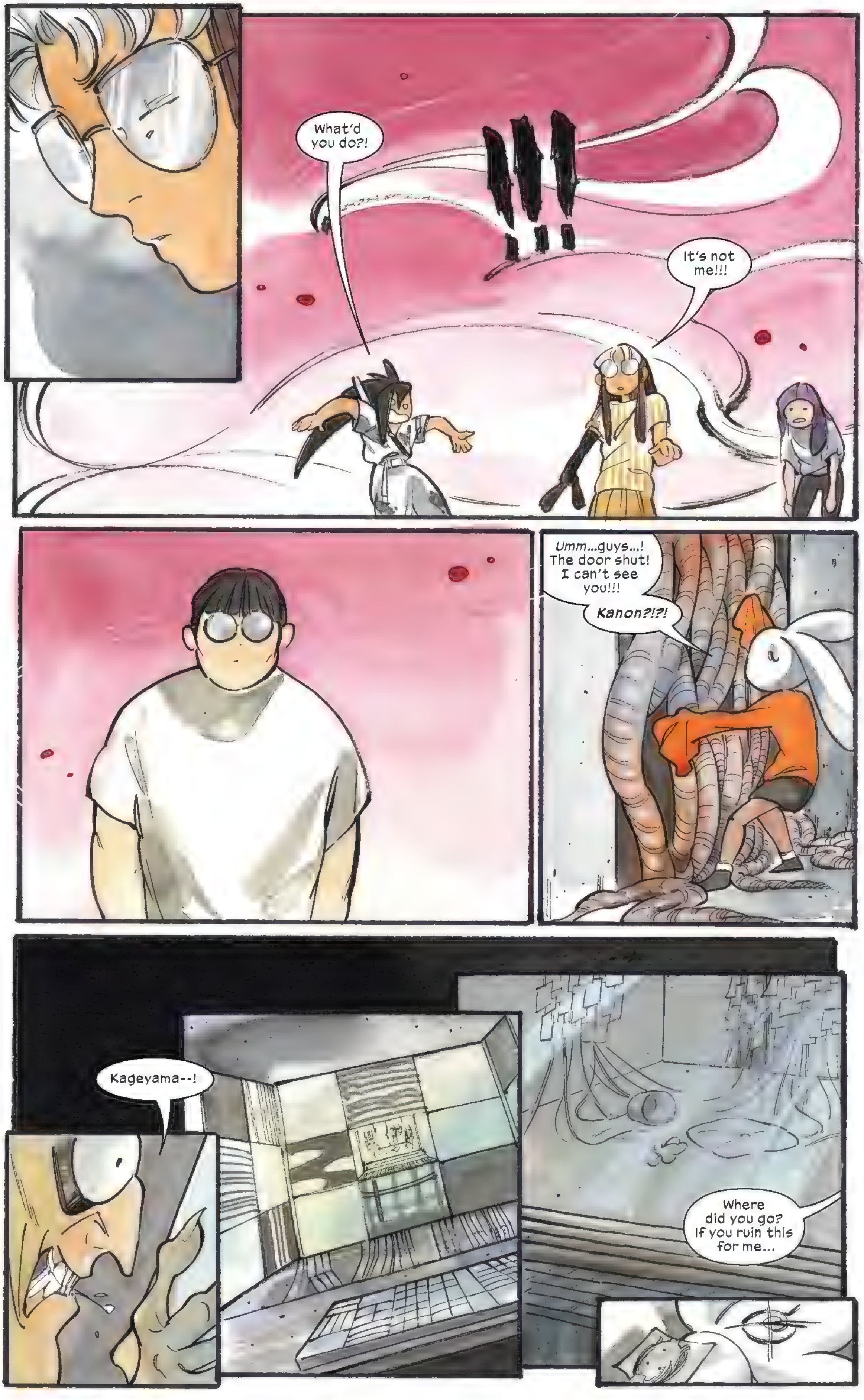

KRKK
Eat...
FWOOOSH
...this!!!
Aahhh!!!
Nice shot, Mei!
So cool...
Y'all can admire her later.
The whole point 'a her attack is to distract them so we can get in.

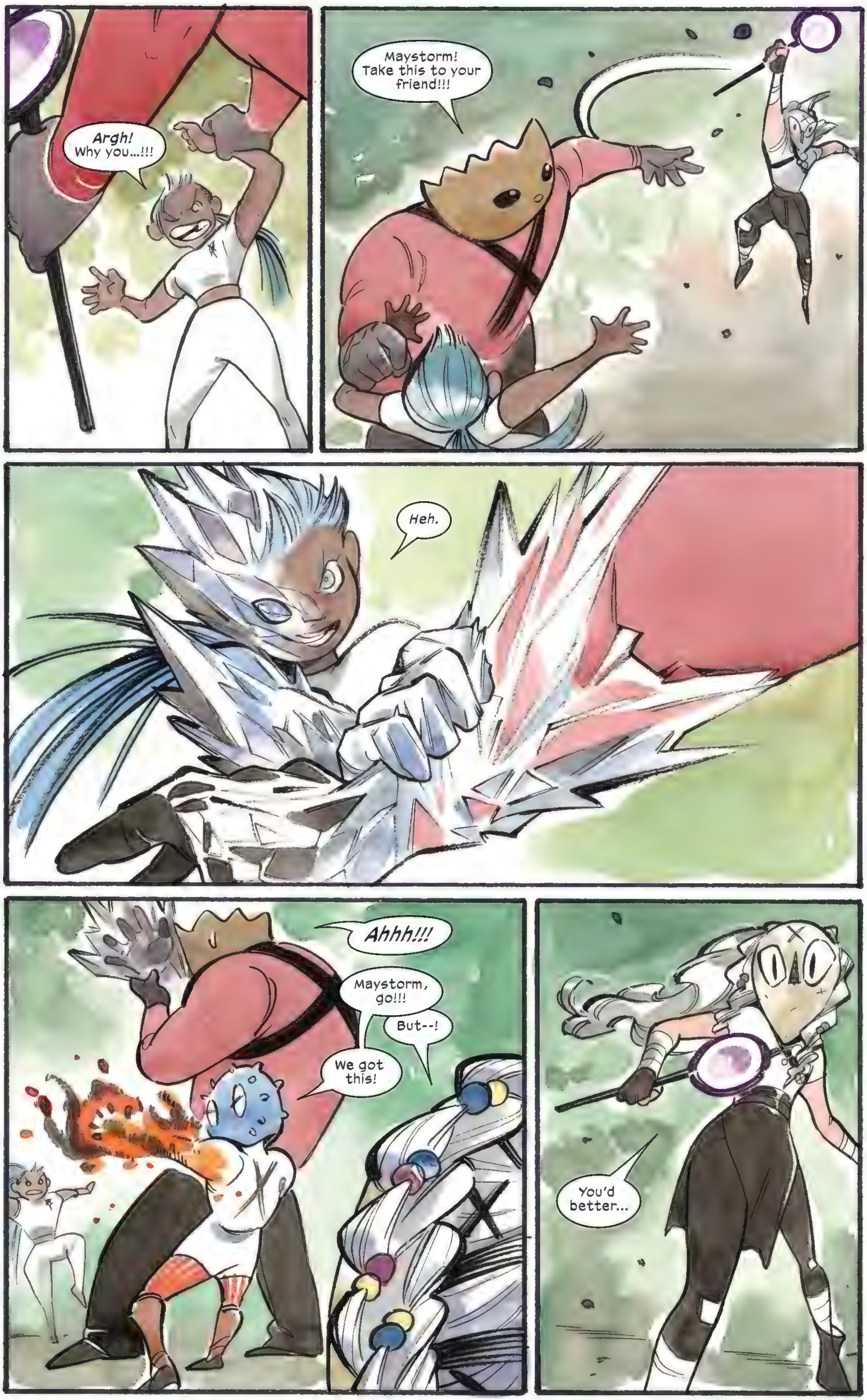

Hey! There's a fight going down!
Coast is clear.
Now...!
It looks abandoned... you sure your insider told you the right place, Futaba?
This better not be a trap.
Hurry!!! This way!!
It should be somewhere around here...
Mori? What's wrong?
Y'all find something?
Dunno. Mori, you okay?

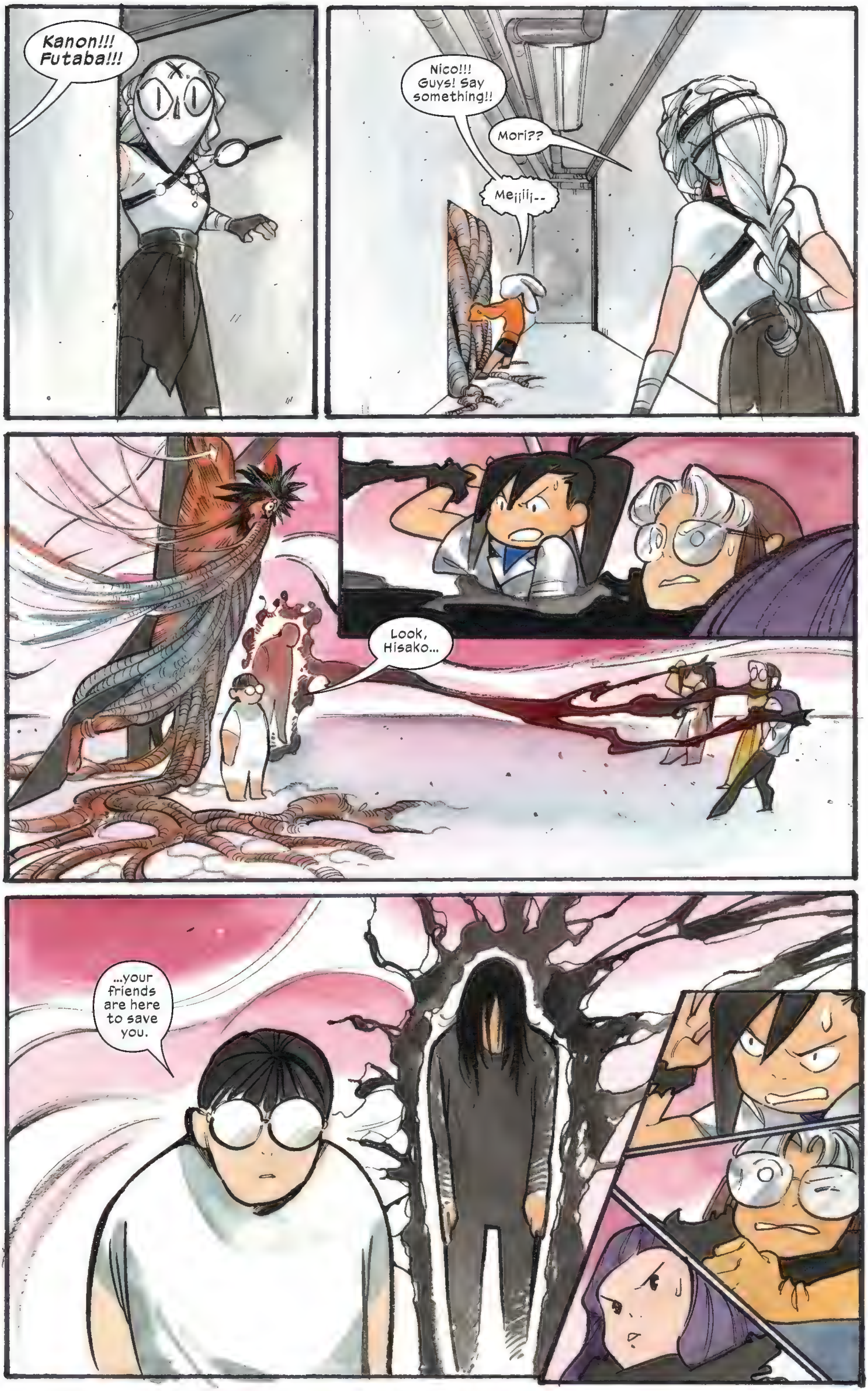

Th-there...
They're in there...
What the--?!

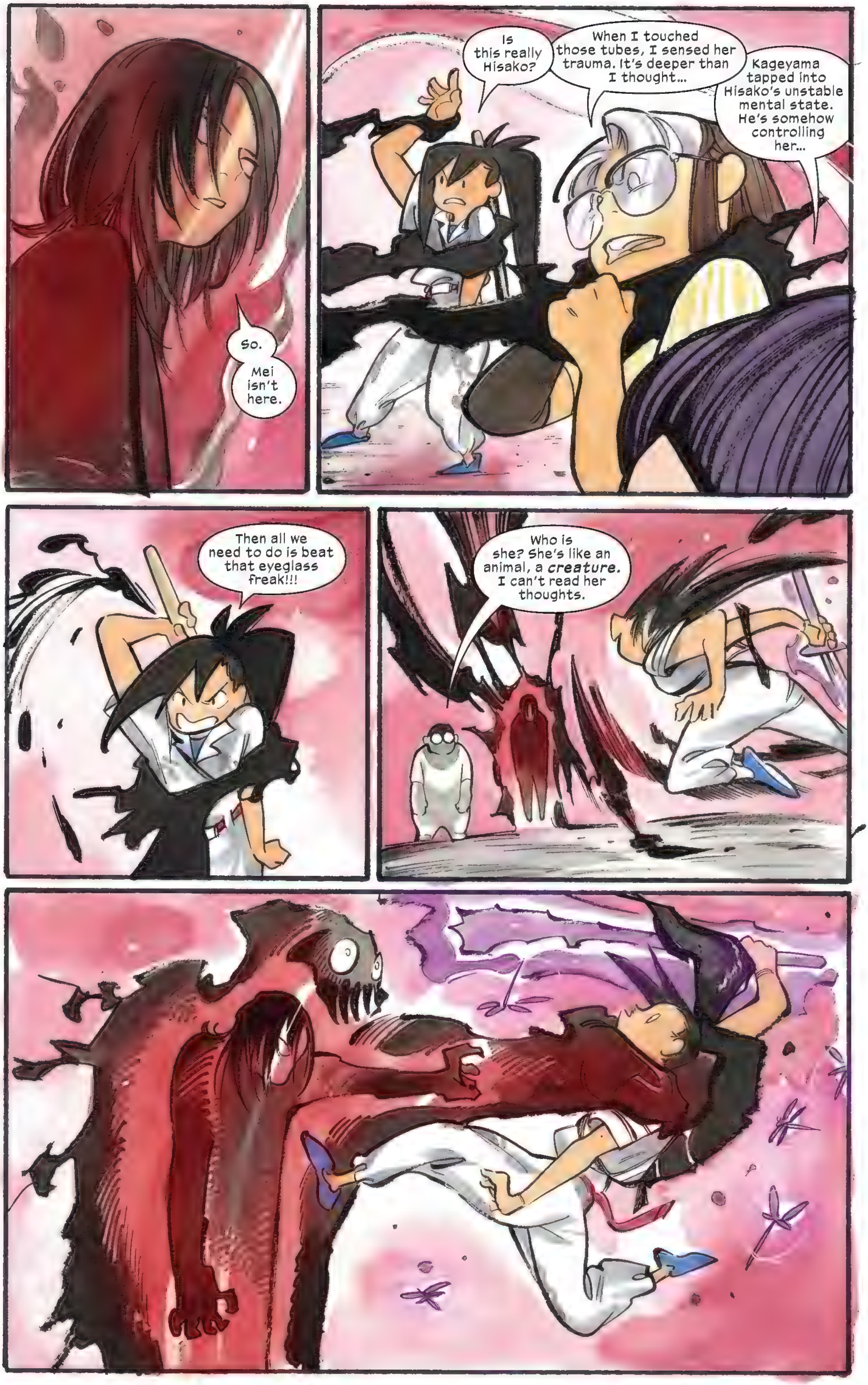

Armor Girl!!! What have they done to you?!
If this is *Hisako*...
...you must be... *Akihiro.*
Nico!!!
Can ya hear me?

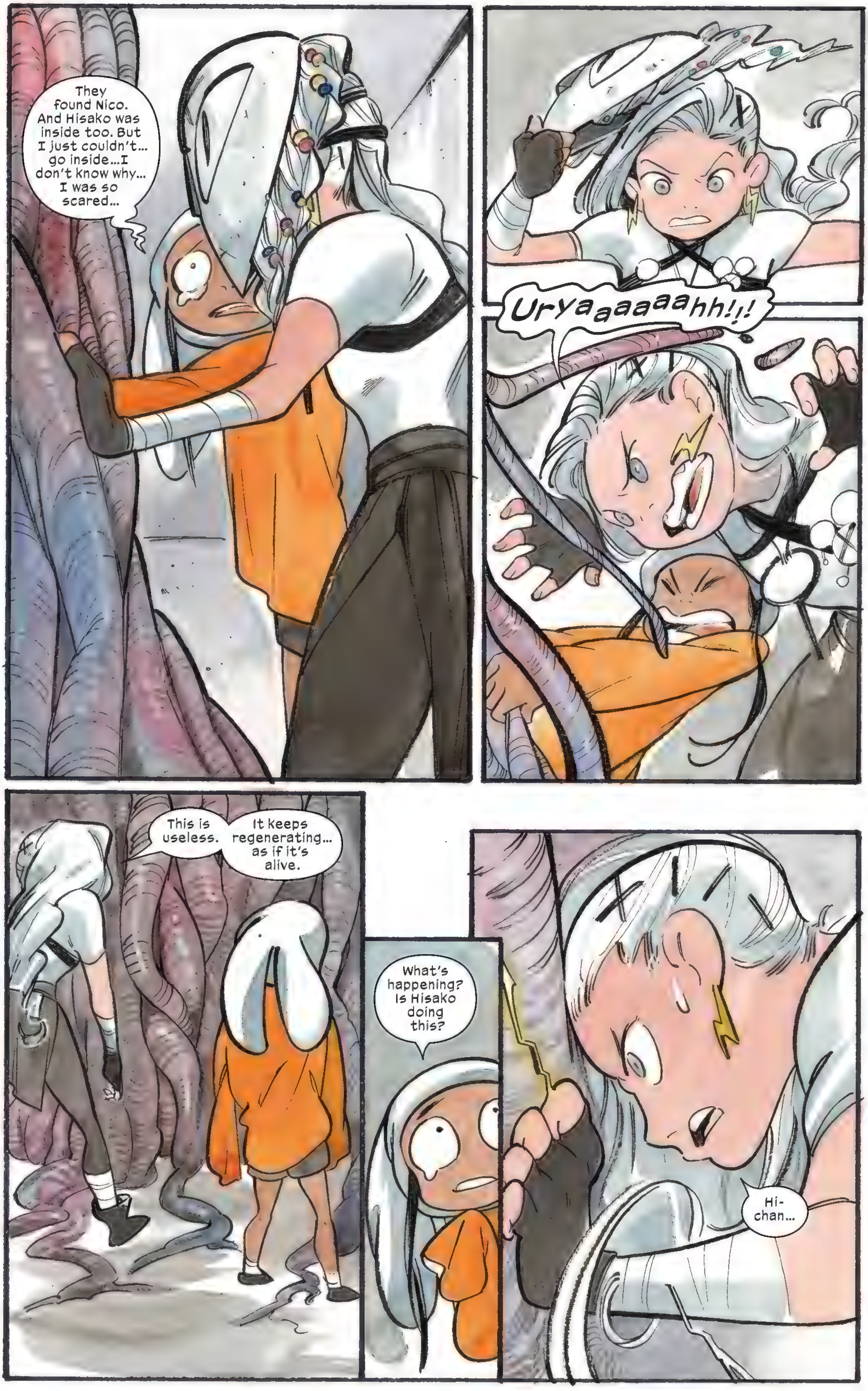

You okay?
She's alive! Now what about...
Hisako!!!
What do we do? Can we get her out of here? Will pulling out these tubes kill her?
Mori!
Get in here and help!!!
Don't touch those tubes!
She's in some kind of suspended animation or deep coma. Those tubes could be keeping her alive.
Y'all ain't giving me no choice then...
Let's take a little peek inside...

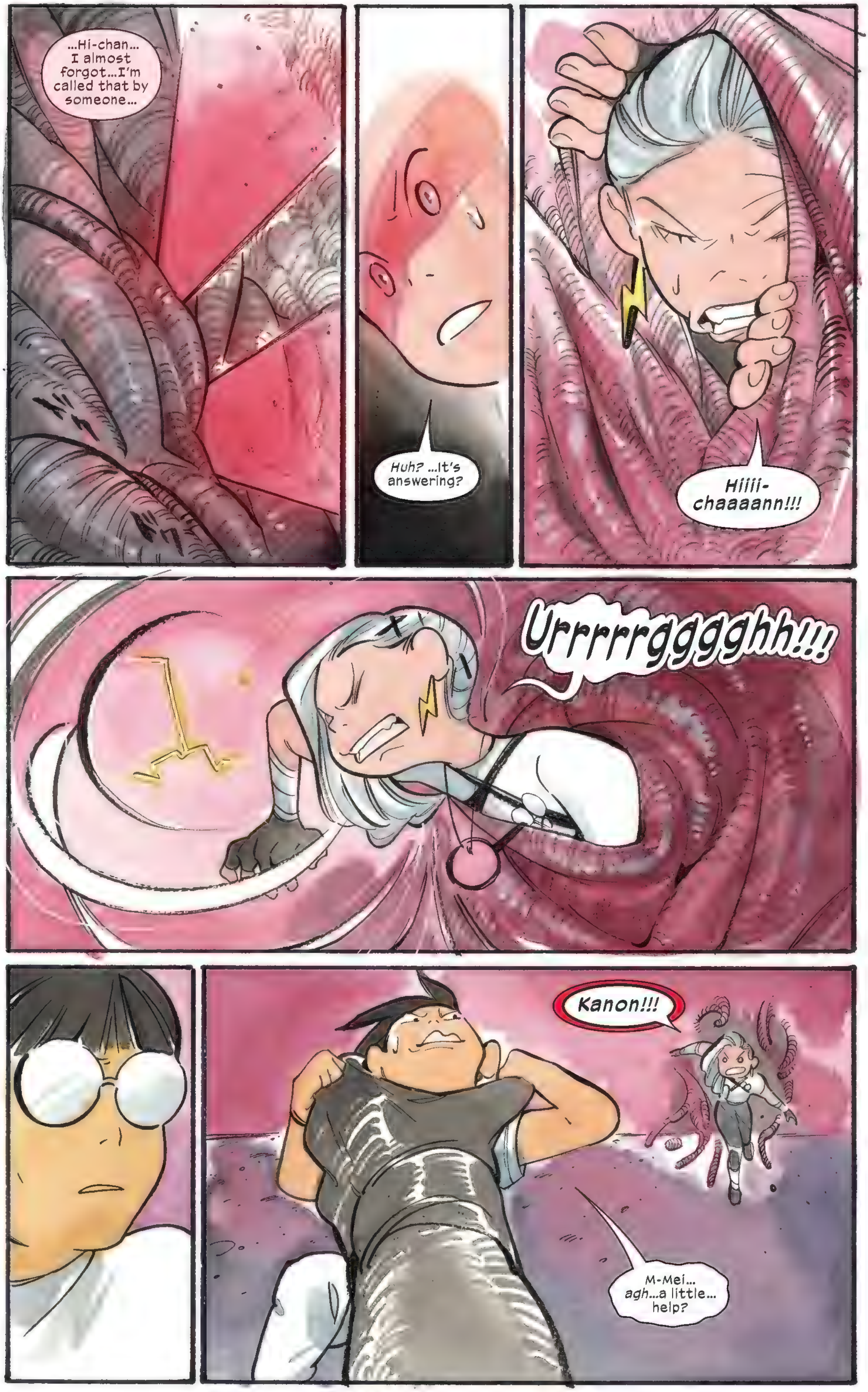

What'd you do?!
!!!
It's not me!!!
Umm...guys...! The door shut! I can't see you!!!
Kanon?!?!
Kageyama--!
Where did you go? If you ruin this for me...

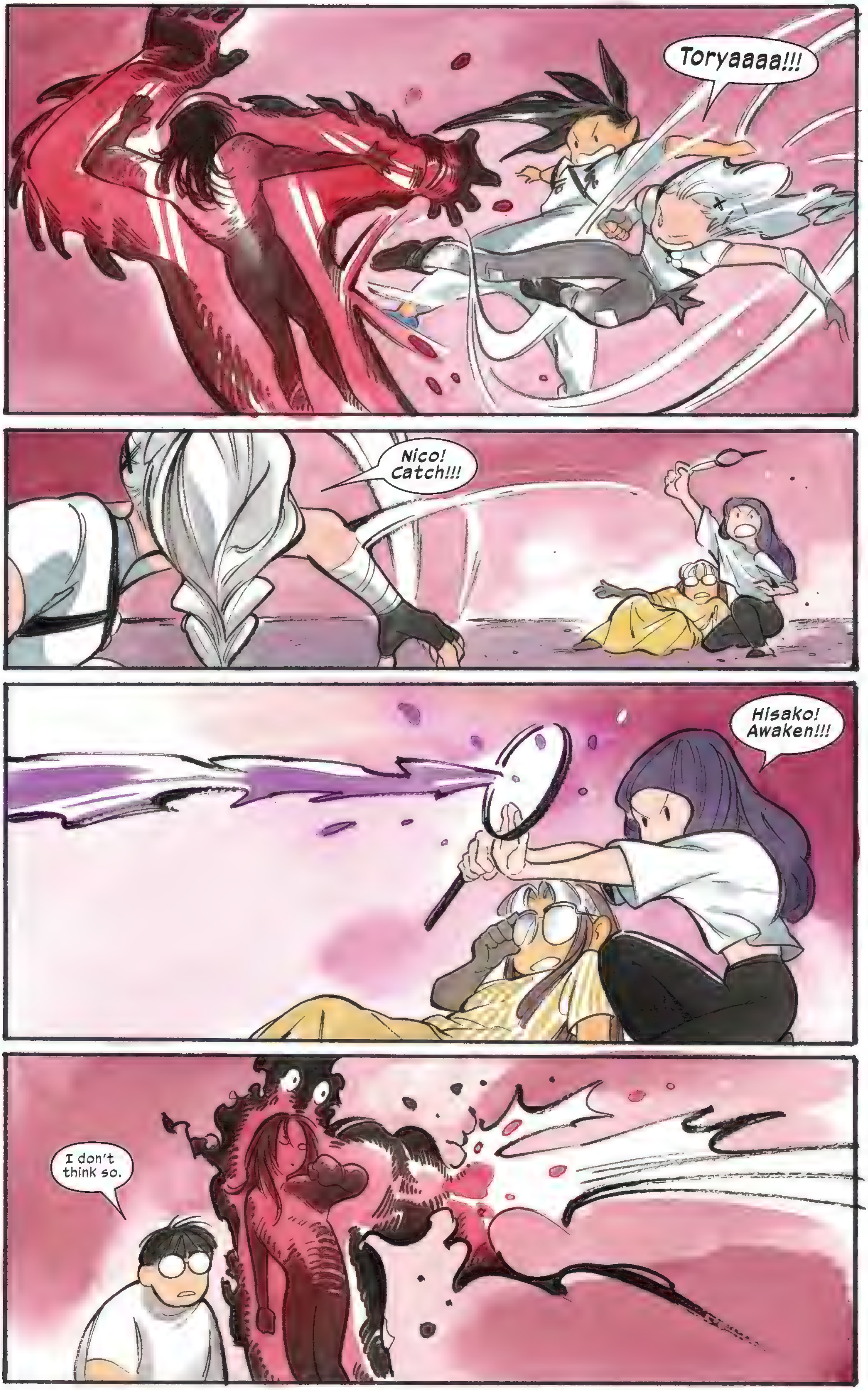

Argh! Why you...!!!
Maystorm! Take this to your friend!!!
Heh.
Ahhh!!!
Maystorm, go!!!
But--!
We got this!
You'd better...

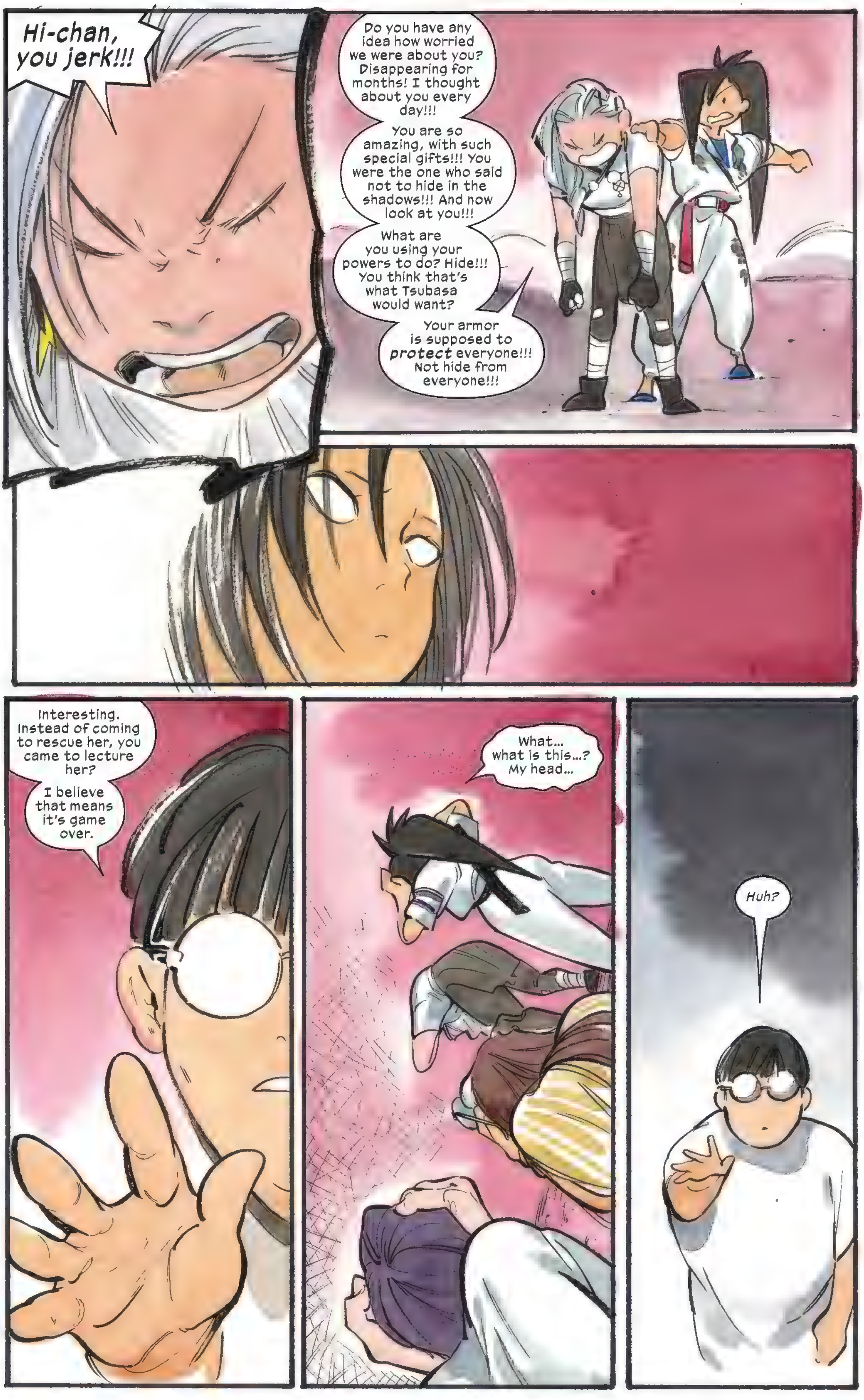

Kanon!!! Futaba!!!
Nico!!! Guys! Say something!!
Mori??
Me¡¡¡¡¡--
Look, Hisako...
...your friends are here to save you.

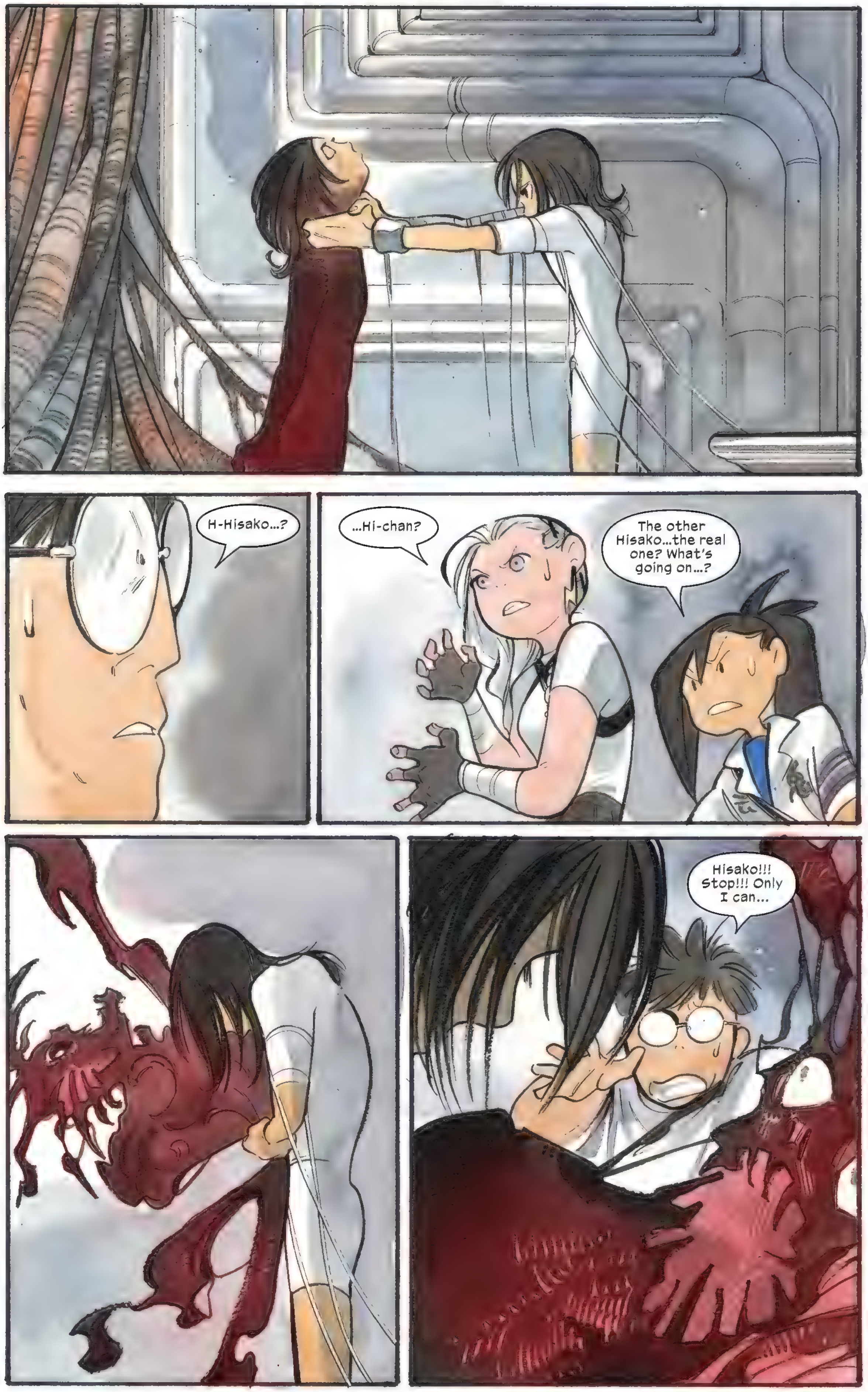

So.
Mei isn't here.
Is this really Hisako?
When I touched those tubes, I sensed her trauma. It's deeper than I thought...
Kageyama tapped into Hisako's unstable mental state. He's somehow controlling her...
Then all we need to do is beat that eyeglass freak!!!
Who is she? She's like an animal, a *creature*. I can't read her thoughts.

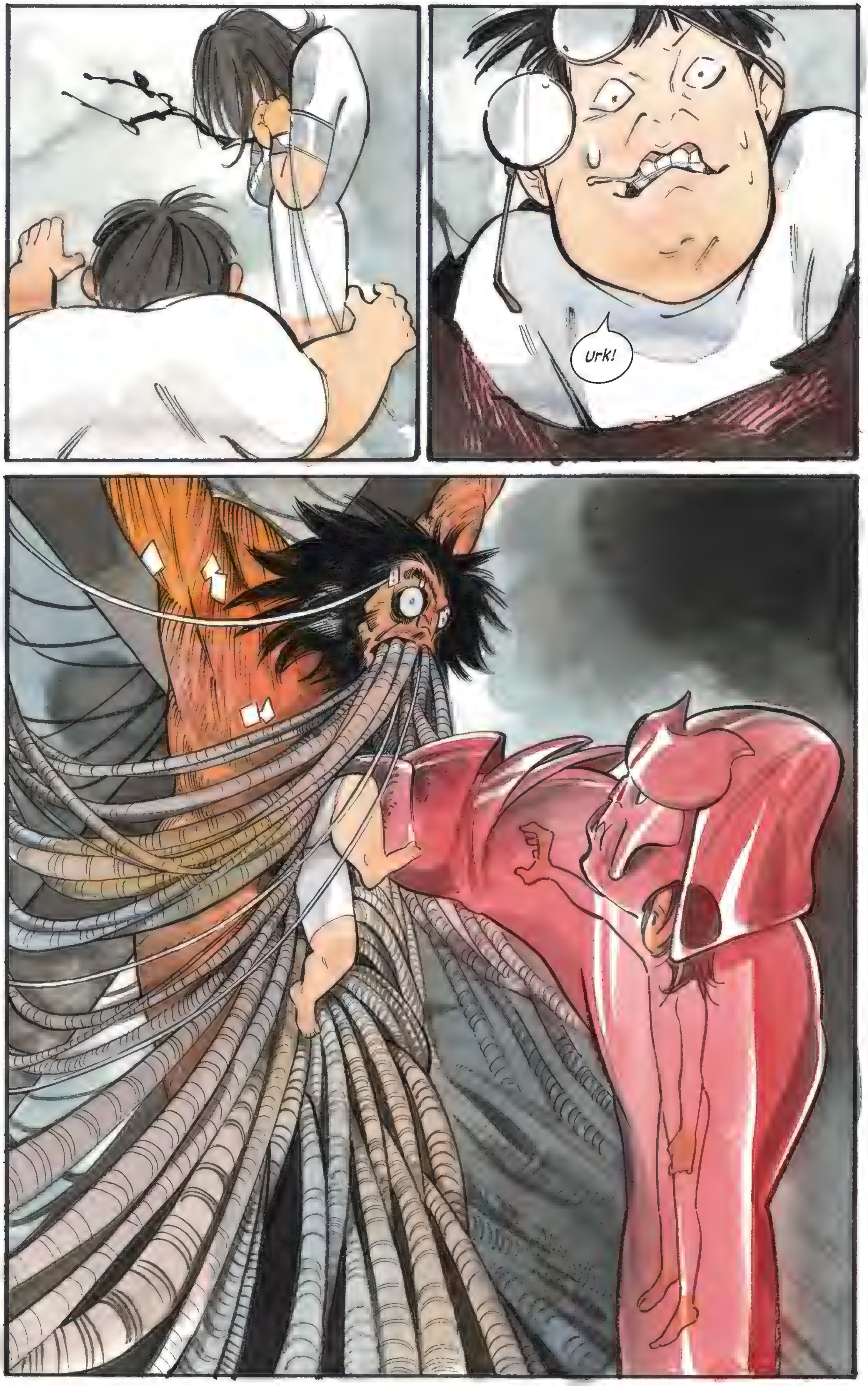

They found Nico. And Hisako was inside too. But I just couldn't... go inside...I don't know why... I was so scared...
Uryaaaaaahh!!!
This is useless.
It keeps regenerating... as if it's alive.
What's happening? Is Hisako doing this?
Hi-chan...

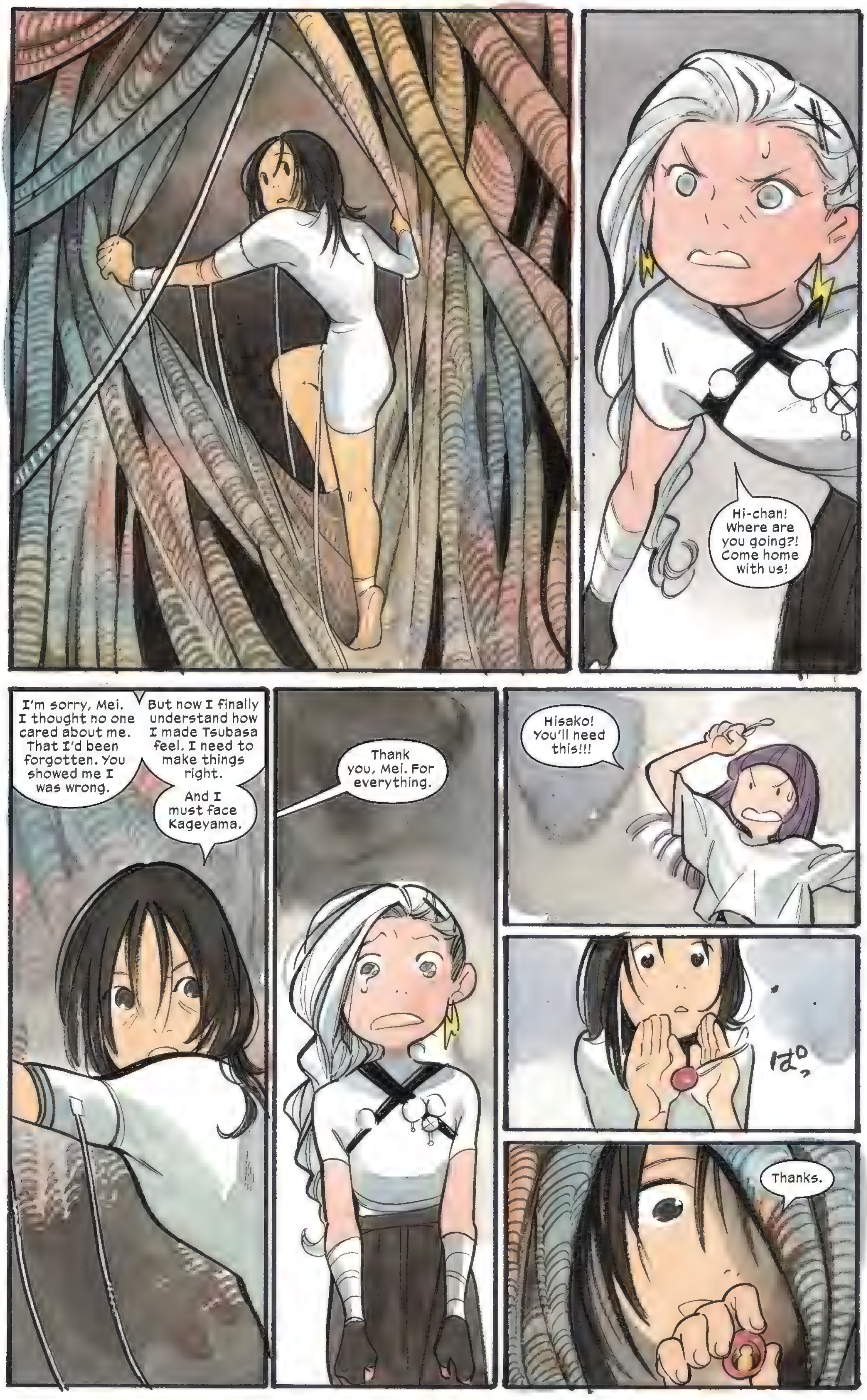

...Hi-chan... I almost forgot...I'm called that by someone...
Huh? ...It's answering?
Hiiii-chaaaann!!!
Urrrrrgggghh!!!
Kanon!!!
M-Mei... agh...a little... help?

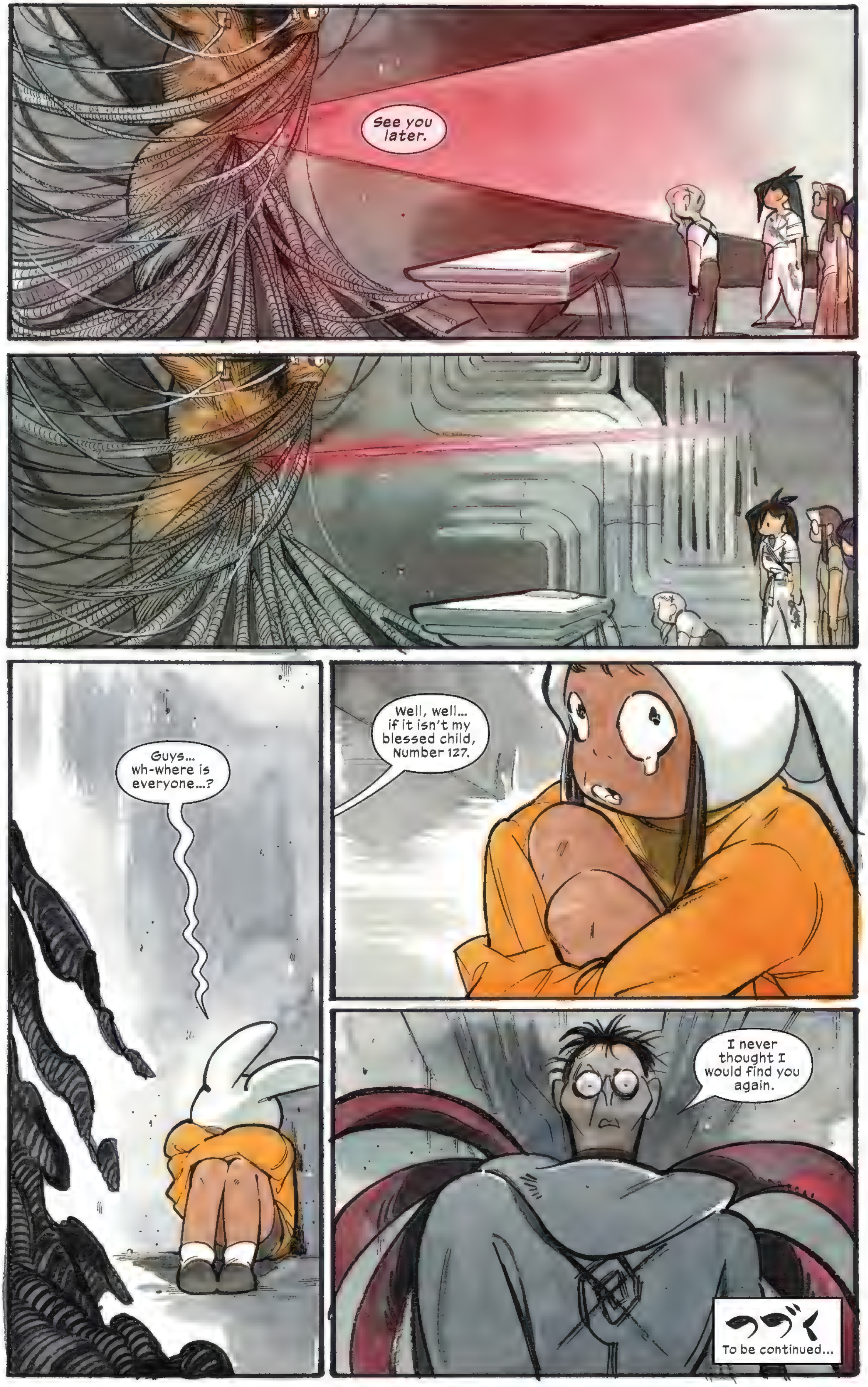

Toryaaaa!!!
Nico! Catch!!!
Hisako! Awaken!!!
I don't think so.


Hi-chan, you jerk!!!
Do you have any idea how worried we were about you? Disappearing for months! I thought about you every day!!!
You are so amazing, with such special gifts!!! You were the one who said not to hide in the shadows!!! And now look at you!!!
What are you using your powers to do? Hide!!! You think that's what Tsubasa would want?
Your armor is supposed to *protect* everyone!!! Not hide from everyone!!!
Interesting. Instead of coming to rescue her, you came to lecture her?
I believe that means it's game over.
What... what is this...? My head...
Huh?


H-Hisako...?
...Hi-chan?
The other Hisako...the real one? What's going on...?
Hisako!!! Stop!!! Only I can...


Urk!

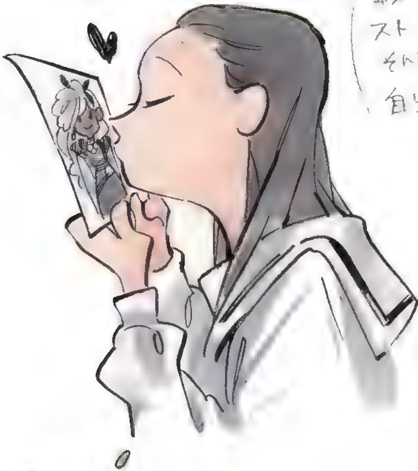

Hi-chan! Where are you going?! Come home with us!
I'm sorry, Mei. I thought no one cared about me. That I'd been forgotten. You showed me I was wrong.
But now I finally understand how I made Tsubasa feel. I need to make things right.
And I must face Kageyama.
Thank you, Mei. For everything.
Hisako! You'll need this!!!
ぱっ
Thanks.


See you later.
Guys... wh-where is everyone...?
Well, well... if it isn't my blessed child, Number 127.
I never thought I would find you again.
つづく
To be continued...

LEXICON

MEI IGARASHI
"MAYSTORM"

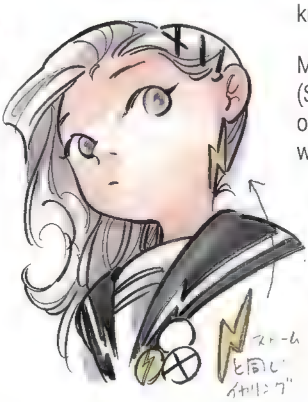
（親の言う事を聞く"良い子ちゃん"だった芽は、SNSで見たストームに憧れを抱くようになる。
そんな時、影山と出会って　芽が持つ潜在能力を刺激されて、
自らその能力を開花させる事となった。）



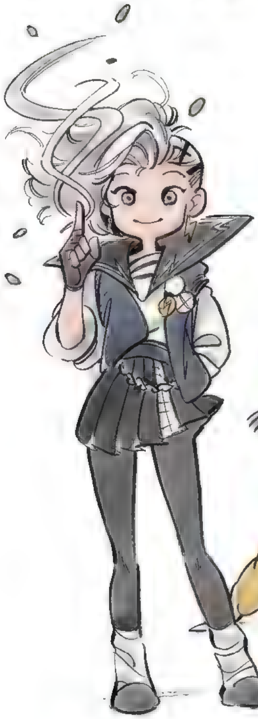
Mei was a well-behaved child who always listened to her parents.

Later, an incident with her neighbor's cat triggered Mei's mutant power. Little did she know, that neighbor was Kageyama...

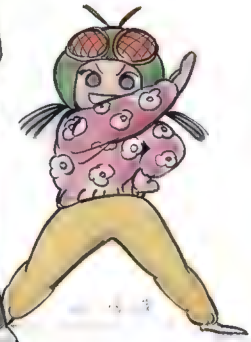
Mei first learned of Ororo Munroe (Storm) through social media reports of underground freedom fighters. Mei wanted to fight for a cause like Storm.


ストームと同じイヤリング

She always wears a Storm-inspired earring.



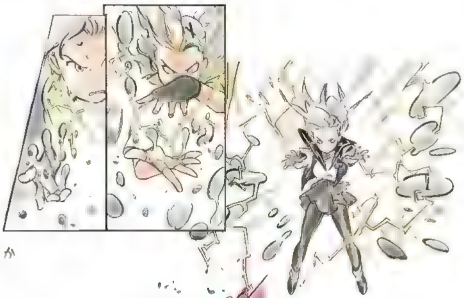
LI'L MEI

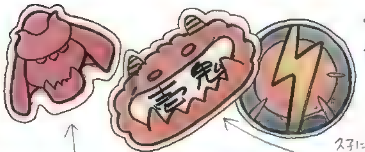


MAYSTORM'S POWER

「メイストームの能力」
小さい嵐を巻き起こす事しか出来ないけど、環境を使って様々な技が使える。
○ 水を使って、嵐を起こしたり、
○ 花びらで技をくり出したり。

Maystorm can only produce small gusts of wind and lightning, but she uses the environment around her to empower greater attacks.





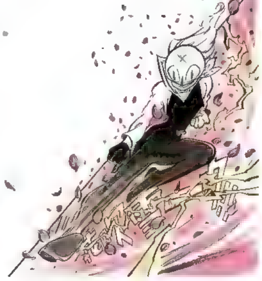
絵を描くのが好きで手作りステッカーを配ったりした。

久子にあげたイチキステッカー

久子に描いたアーマーステッカー
（久子はこの絵をチャットのアイコンにしてる。）

Mei loves to draw and craft handmade stickers.

She gave Hisako an "Ichiki" sticker and an Armor sticker that Hisako uses as her chat icon.



Example: Creating a burst of thunderstorm by combining wind and lightning with rain or water droplets.

Example 2: A swirl of wind that turns leaves and flower petals into sharp projectiles.

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SCRIPT ADAPTATION: **ZACK DAVISSON**
LETTERER: **VC's TRAVIS LANHAM**

COVER ARTIST: **PEACH MOMOKO**

VARIANT
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PEACH MOMOKO (DESIGN);
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X-MEN CREATED BY **STAN LEE** & **JACK KIRBY**

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MARVEL
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ULTIMATE X-MEN
PEACH MOMOKO

ON SALE IN **AUGUST**

ON SALE THIS MONTH

MARVEL
19
ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN

ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN #19

BY **JONATHAN HICKMAN**
& **MARCO CHECCHETTO**

MARVEL
ULTIMATE BLACK PANTHER

ULTIMATE BLACK PANTHER #18

BY **BRYAN HILL** &
STEFANO CASELLI

MARVEL
14
THE ULTIMATES

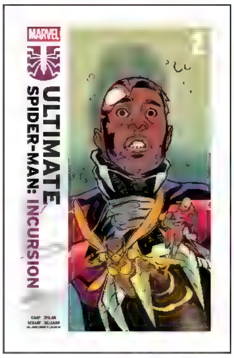
ULTIMATES #14

BY **DENIZ CAMP**
& **JUAN FRIGERI**

MARVEL
7
ULTIMATE WOLVERINE

ULTIMATE WOLVERINE #7

BY **CHRIS CONDON** &
ALESSANDRO CAPPUCCIO


MARVEL
2
ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN: INCURSION

ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN: INCURSION #2

BY **DENIZ CAMP**, **CODY ZIGLAR**
& **JONAS SCHARF**

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU! EMAIL US AT **ULTIMATEOFFICE@MARVEL.COM** AND MARK YOUR LETTERS **"OKAY TO PRINT"**!

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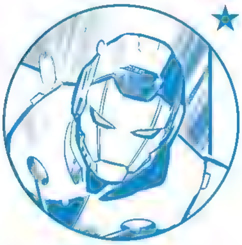
A diabolical genius known as **THE MAKER** used time travel to create his ideal Earth by systematically preventing anyone from ever becoming a super hero and by establishing a secret council of super villains, **THE MAKER'S COUNCIL**, that rules the world from the shadows.

But now the Maker is gone, locked away for the next five months by inventor **HOWARD STARK**. Howard's teenage son, **TONY**, took on the codename **IRON LAD** and began recruiting a network of heroes to fight back against the Maker's Council and prepare for the Maker's return.

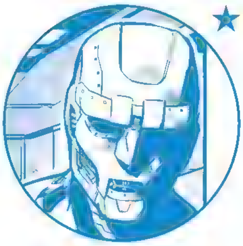
These heroes, calling themselves the **ULTIMATES**, have been operating covertly across the globe—but time is running out before the Maker returns. They've expanded their movement, mobilizing and training civilians to act as revolutionaries—much like **HAWKEYE**, the sharpshooter who found Iron Lad's tech in the garbage and has since used it to put pressure on the corporations ruling the world...

THE ULTIMATES

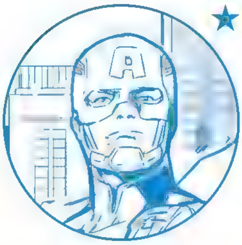
CAST:



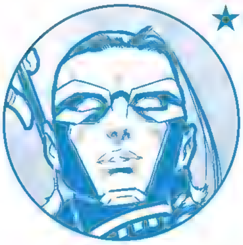
IRON LAD
TONY STARK



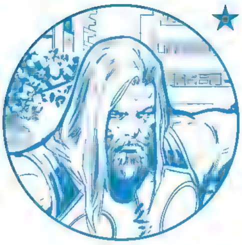
DOOM
REED RICHARDS



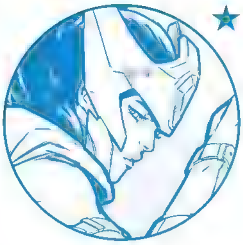
CAPTAIN AMERICA
STEVE ROGERS



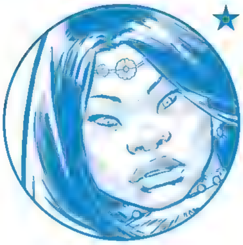
HAWKEYE
CHARLI RAMSEY



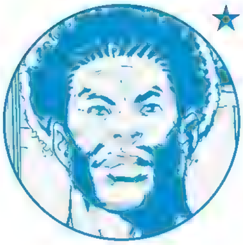
THOR
GOD OF THUNDER



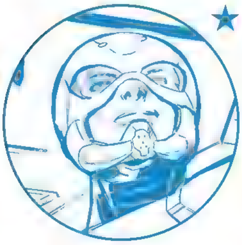
SIF
WARRIOR GODDESS



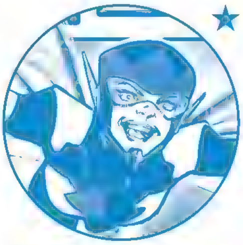
SHE-HULK
LEJORI JOENA ZAKARIA



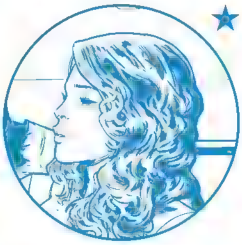
LUKE CAGE
PRISON REVOLTER



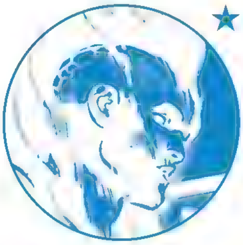
GIANT-MAN
HANK PYM



WASP
JANET VAN DYNE

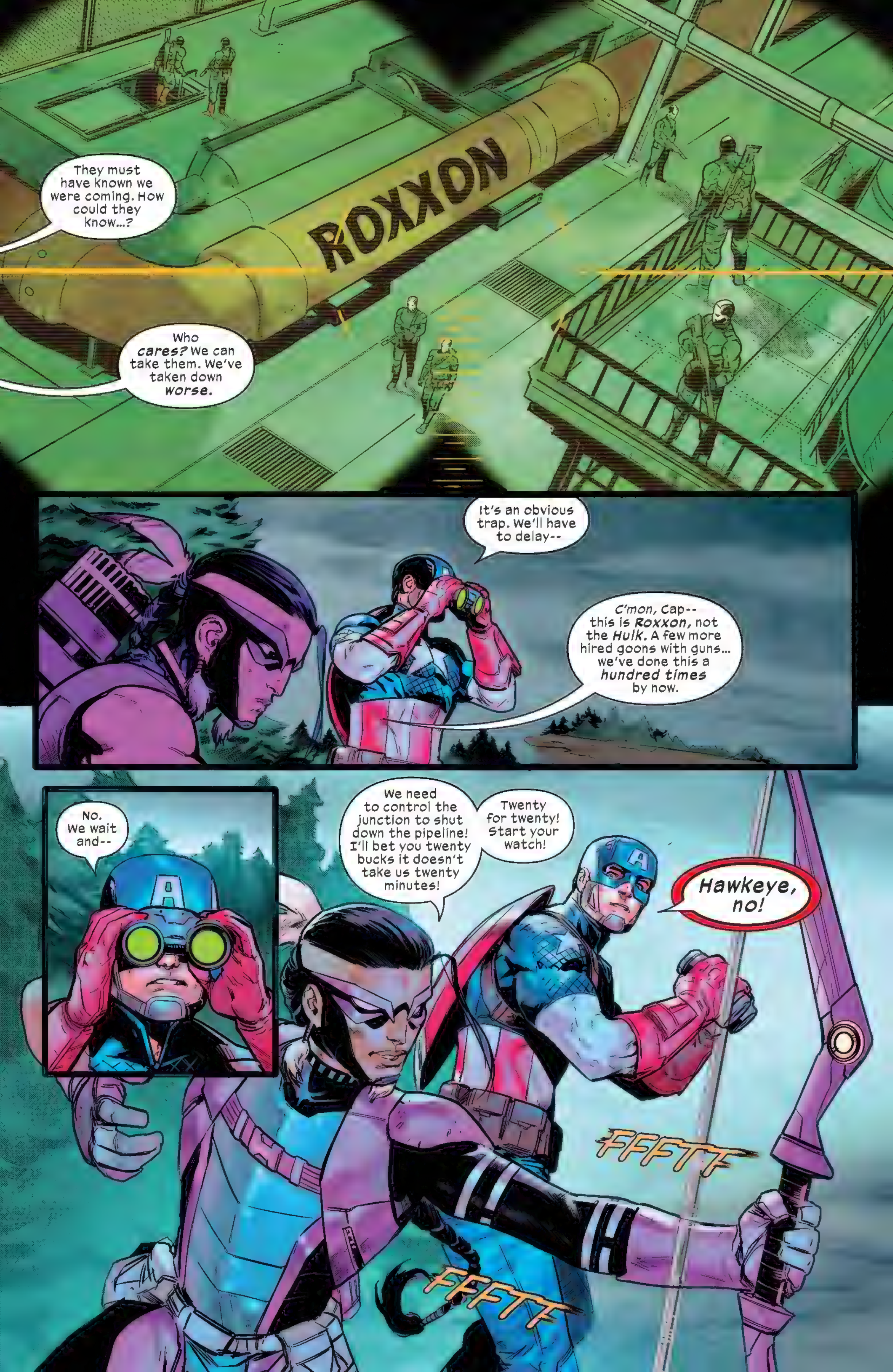


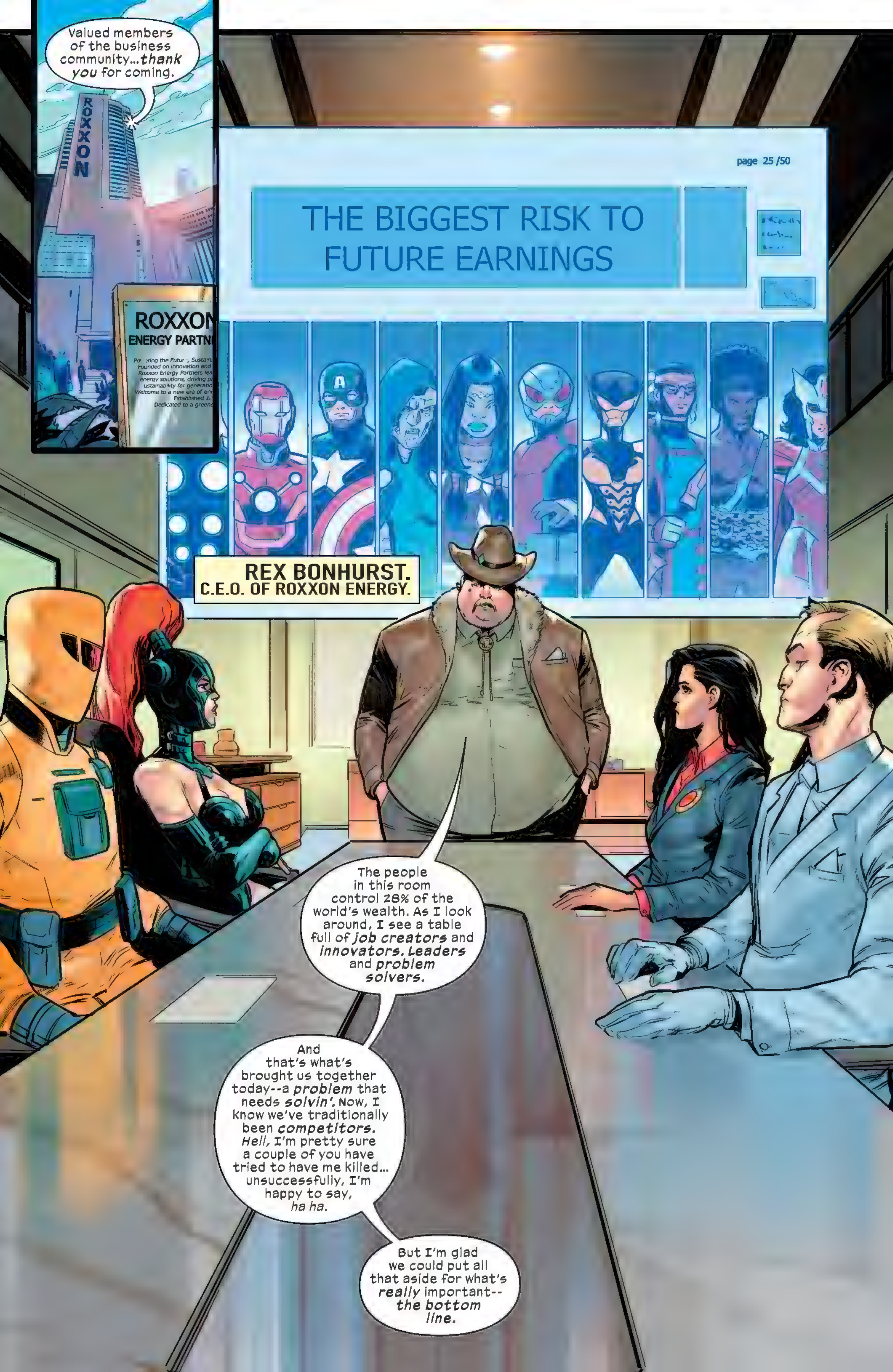
AMERICA CHAVEZ
COSMIC POWERHOUSE

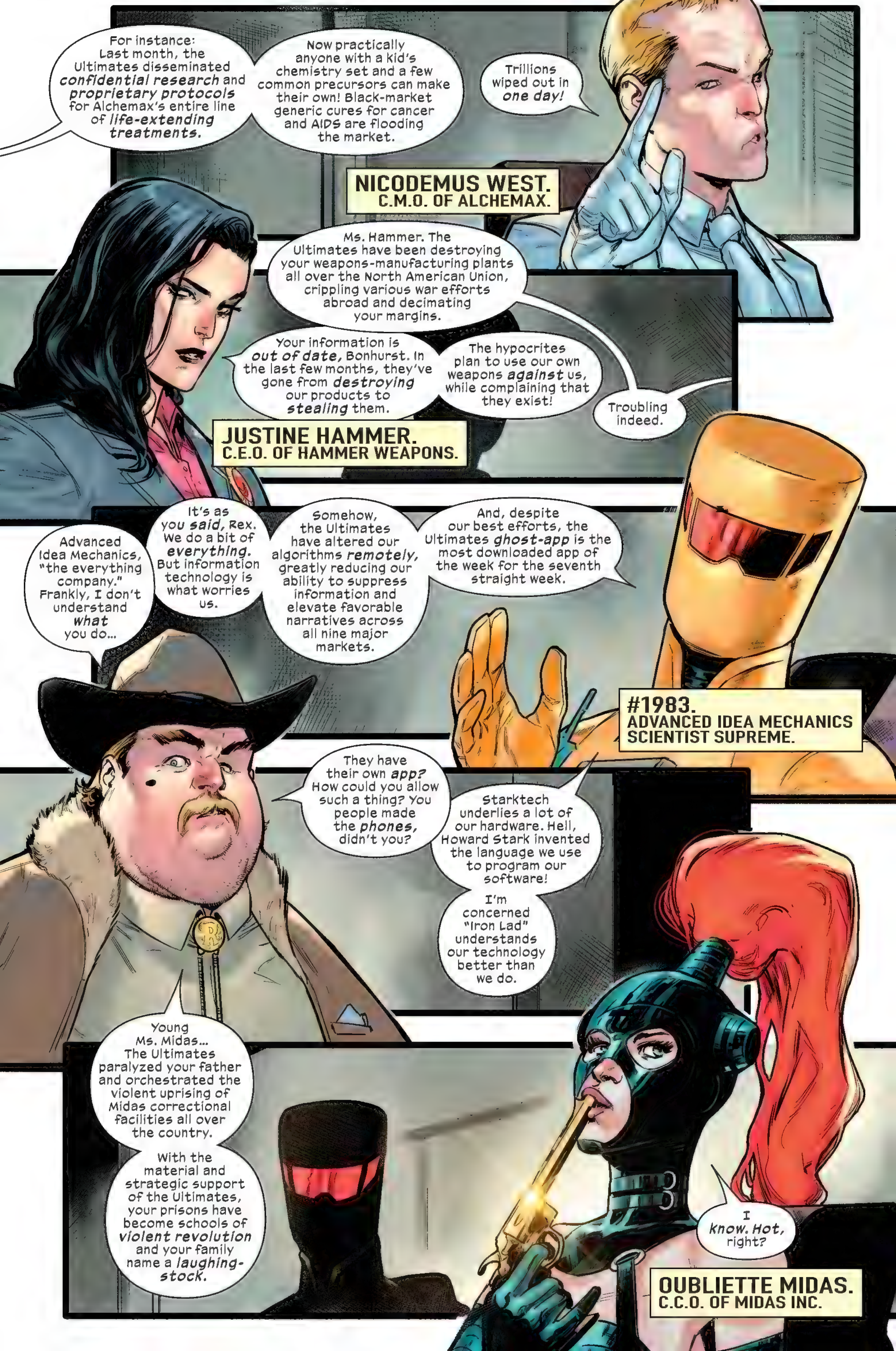


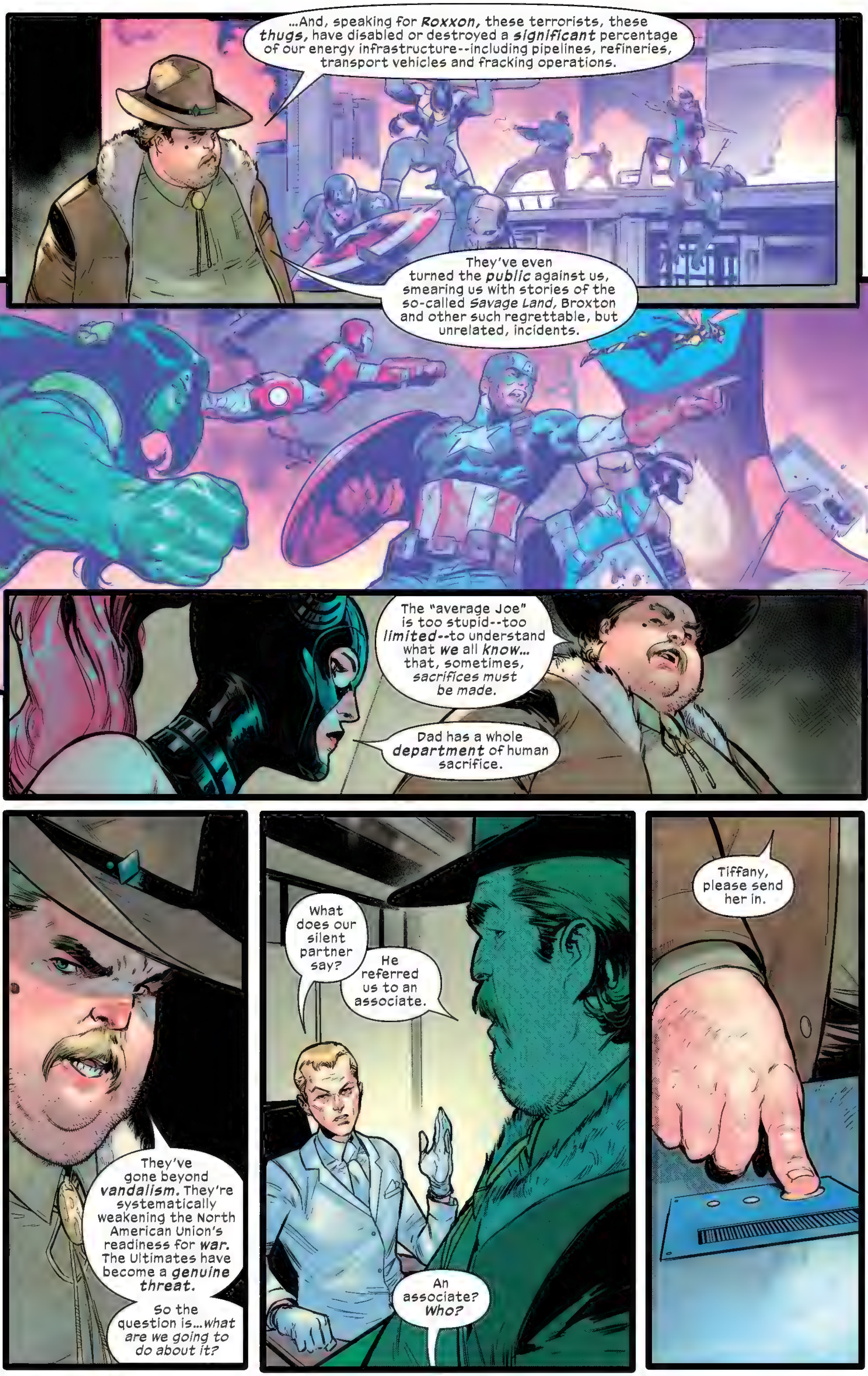
THE HUMAN TORCH
JIM HAMMOND

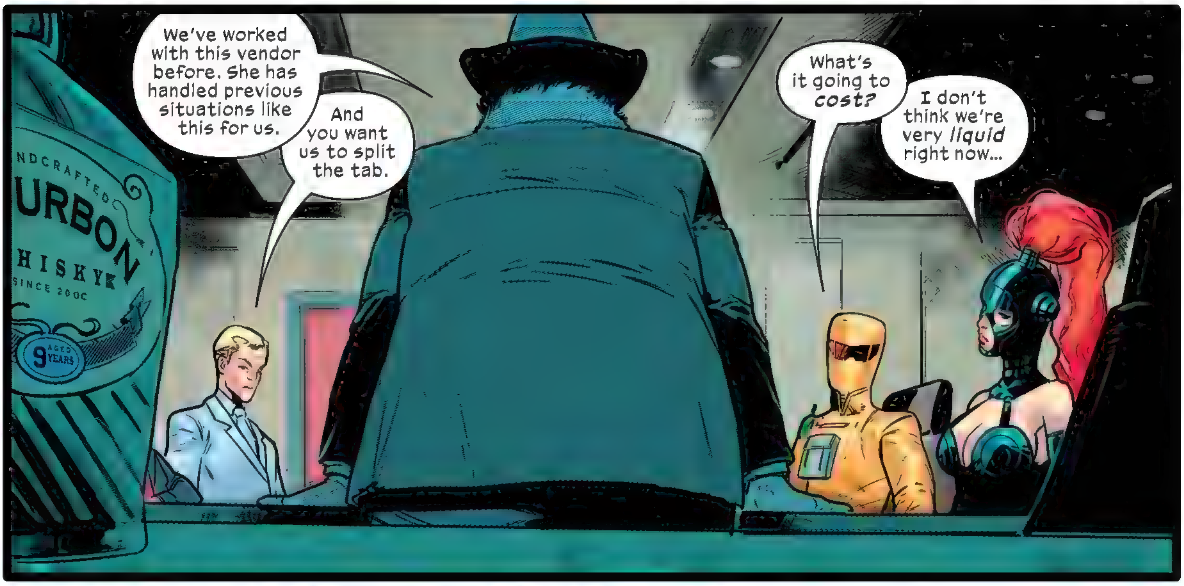
JULY 2025

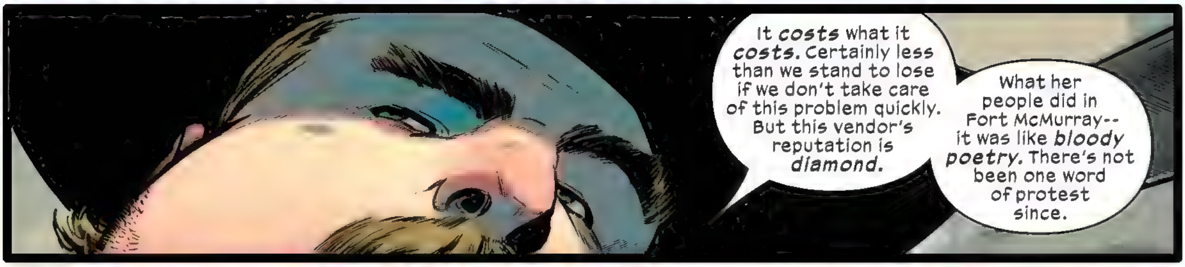

ROXXON
They must have known we were coming. How could they know...?
Who cares? We can take them. We've taken down worse.
It's an obvious trap. We'll have to delay--
C'mon, Cap-- this is Roxxon, not the Hulk. A few more hired goons with guns... we've done this a hundred times by now.
No. We wait and--
We need to control the junction to shut down the pipeline! I'll bet you twenty bucks it doesn't take us twenty minutes!
Twenty for twenty! Start your watch!
Hawkeye, no!
FFFTF
FFFTT

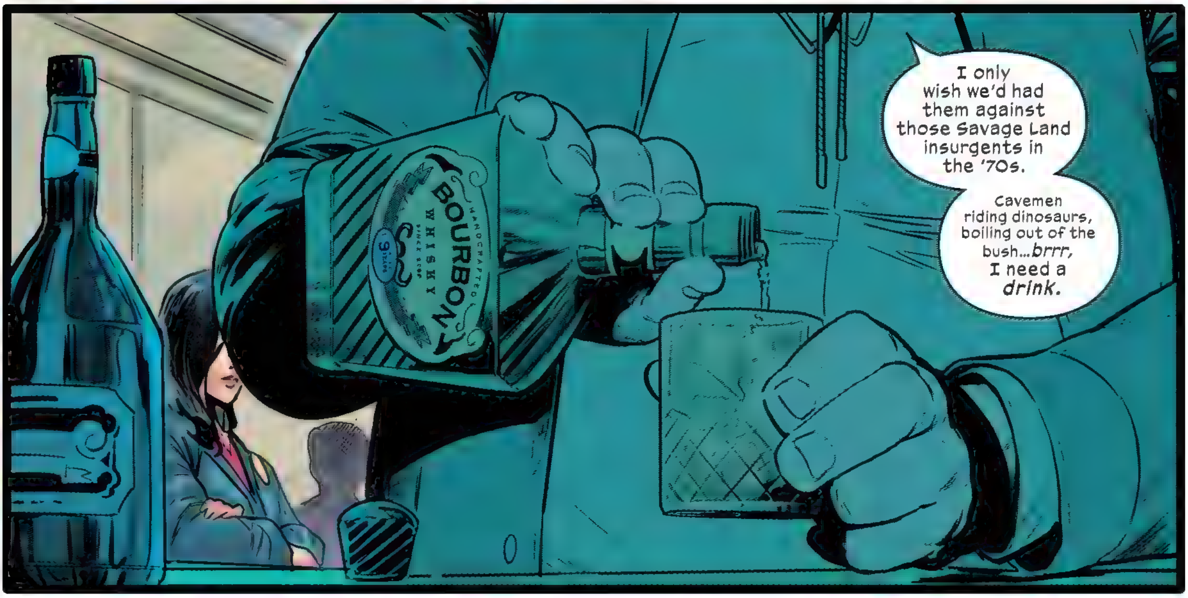

Valued members of the business community...*thank you* for coming.
ROXXON
ROXXON
ENERGY PARTN
page 25 /50
THE BIGGEST RISK TO FUTURE EARNINGS
REX BONHURST.
C.E.O. OF ROXXON ENERGY.
The people in this room control 28% of the world's wealth. As I look around, I see a table full of *job creators* and *innovators. Leaders* and *problem solvers.*
And that's what's brought us together today--a *problem* that needs *solvin'.* Now, I know we've traditionally been *competitors. Hell,* I'm pretty sure a couple of you have tried to have me killed... unsuccessfully, I'm happy to say, *ha ha.*
But I'm glad we could put all that aside for what's *really* important--*the bottom line.*

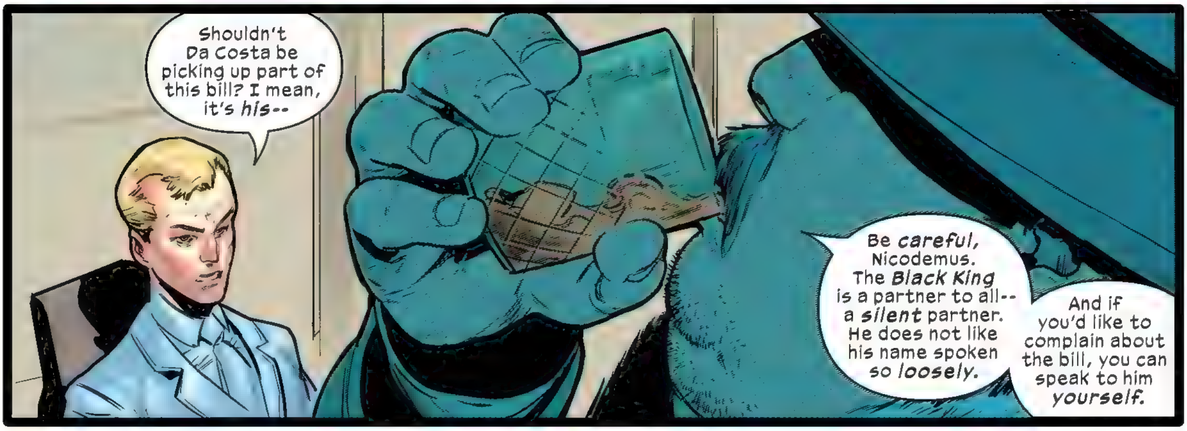

For instance: Last month, the Ultimates disseminated *confidential research* and *proprietary protocols* for Alchemax's entire line of *life-extending treatments.*
Now practically anyone with a kid's chemistry set and a few common precursors can make their own! Black-market generic cures for cancer and AIDS are flooding the market.
Trillions wiped out in *one day!*
NICODEMUS WEST. C.M.O. OF ALCHEMAX.
Ms. Hammer. The Ultimates have been destroying your weapons-manufacturing plants all over the North American Union, crippling various war efforts abroad and decimating your margins.
Your information is *out of date,* Bonhurst. In the last few months, they've gone from *destroying* our products to *stealing* them.
The hypocrites plan to use our own weapons *against* us, while complaining that they exist!
Troubling indeed.
JUSTINE HAMMER. C.E.O. OF HAMMER WEAPONS.
Advanced Idea Mechanics, "the everything company." Frankly, I don't understand *what* you do...
It's as you *said,* Rex. We do a bit of *everything.* But information technology is what worries us.
Somehow, the Ultimates have altered our algorithms *remotely,* greatly reducing our ability to suppress information and elevate favorable narratives across all nine major markets.
And, despite our best efforts, the Ultimates *ghost-app* is the most downloaded app of the week for the seventh straight week.
#1983. ADVANCED IDEA MECHANICS SCIENTIST SUPREME.
They have their own *app?* How could you allow such a thing? You people made the *phones,* didn't you?
Starktech underlies a lot of our hardware. Hell, Howard Stark invented the language we use to program our software!
I'm concerned "Iron Lad" understands our technology better than we do.
Young Ms. Midas... The Ultimates paralyzed your father and orchestrated the violent uprising of Midas correctional facilities all over the country.
With the material and strategic support of the Ultimates, your prisons have become schools of *violent revolution* and your family name a *laughing-stock.*
I *know. Hot,* right?
OUBLIETTE MIDAS. C.C.O. OF MIDAS INC.

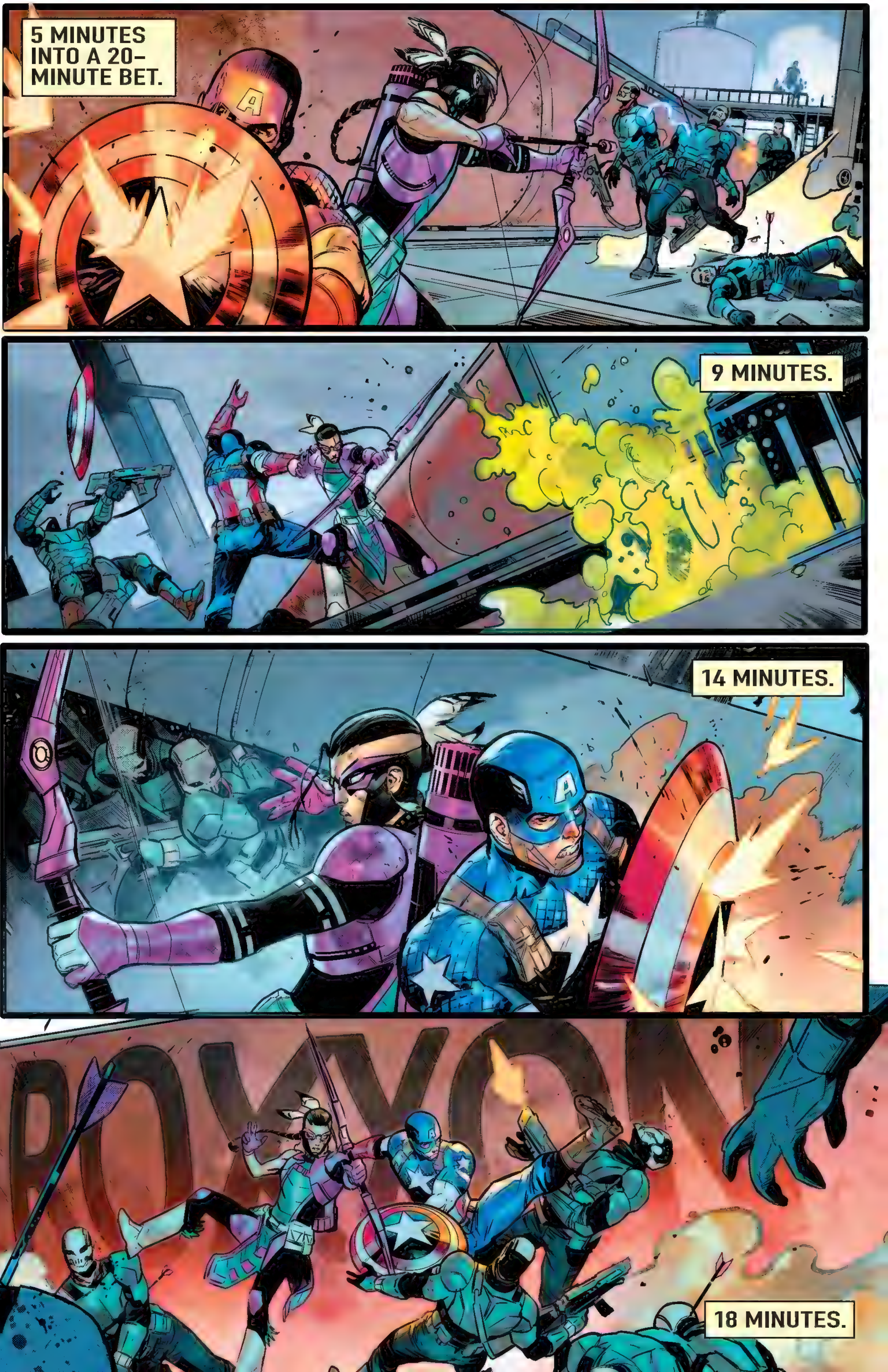

...And, speaking for **Roxxon,** these terrorists, these ***thugs,*** have disabled or destroyed a ***significant*** percentage of our energy infrastructure--including pipelines, refineries, transport vehicles and fracking operations.
They've even turned the *public* against us, smearing us with stories of the so-called *Savage Land,* Broxton and other such regrettable, but unrelated, incidents.
The "average Joe" is too stupid--too ***limited***--to understand what ***we*** all ***know...*** that, sometimes, *sacrifices must be made.*
Dad has a whole ***department*** of human sacrifice.
They've gone beyond ***vandalism.*** They're systematically weakening the North American Union's readiness for ***war.*** The Ultimates have become a ***genuine threat.***
So the question is...*what are we going to do about it?*
What does our silent partner say?
He referred us to an associate.
An associate? ***Who?***
Tiffany, please send her in.

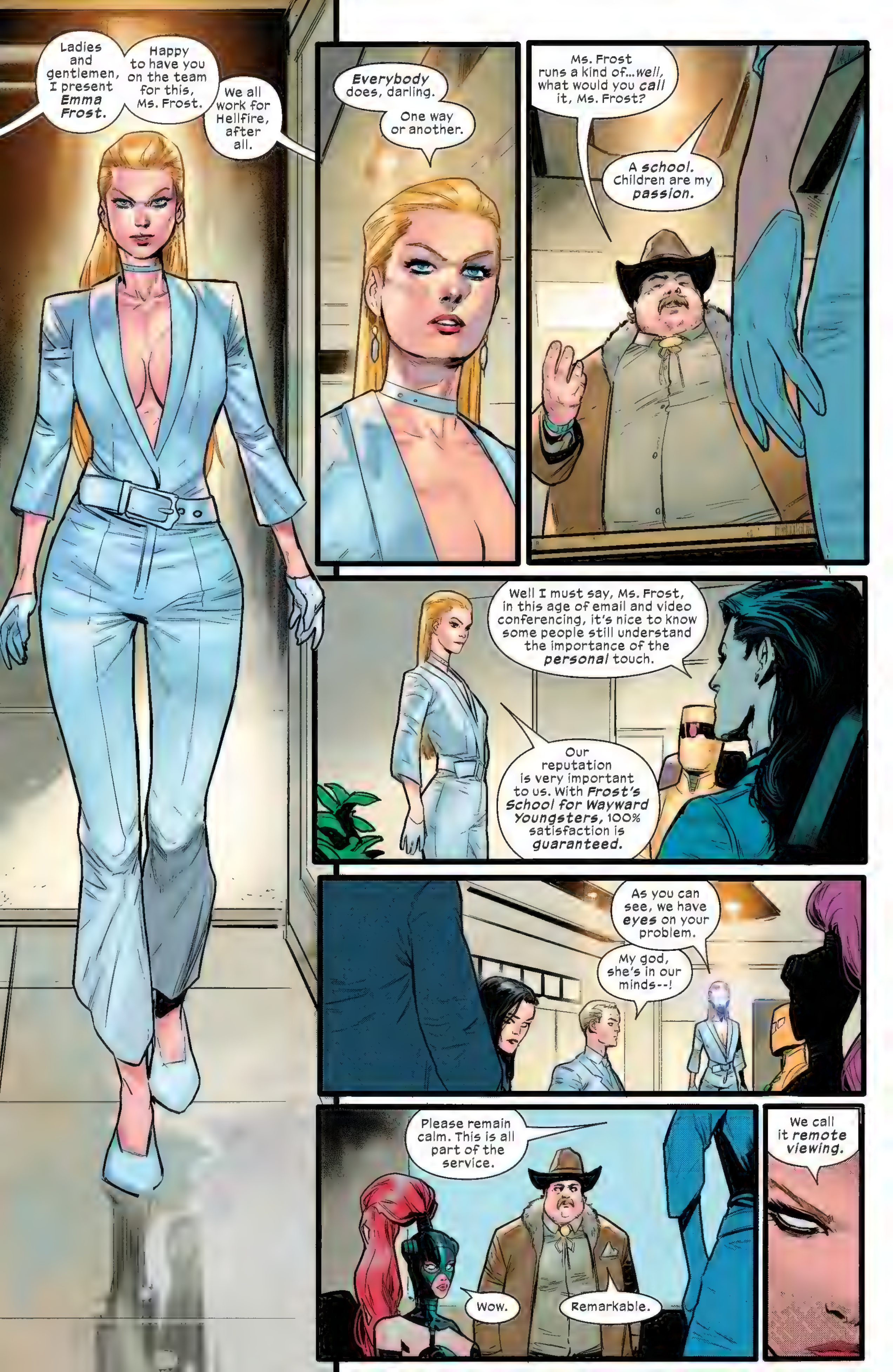

We've worked with this vendor before. She has handled previous situations like this for us.
And you want us to split the tab.
What's it going to *cost?*
I don't think we're very *liquid* right now...
NDCRAFTED
URBON
HISKY
SINCE 200C
9 AGED YEARS

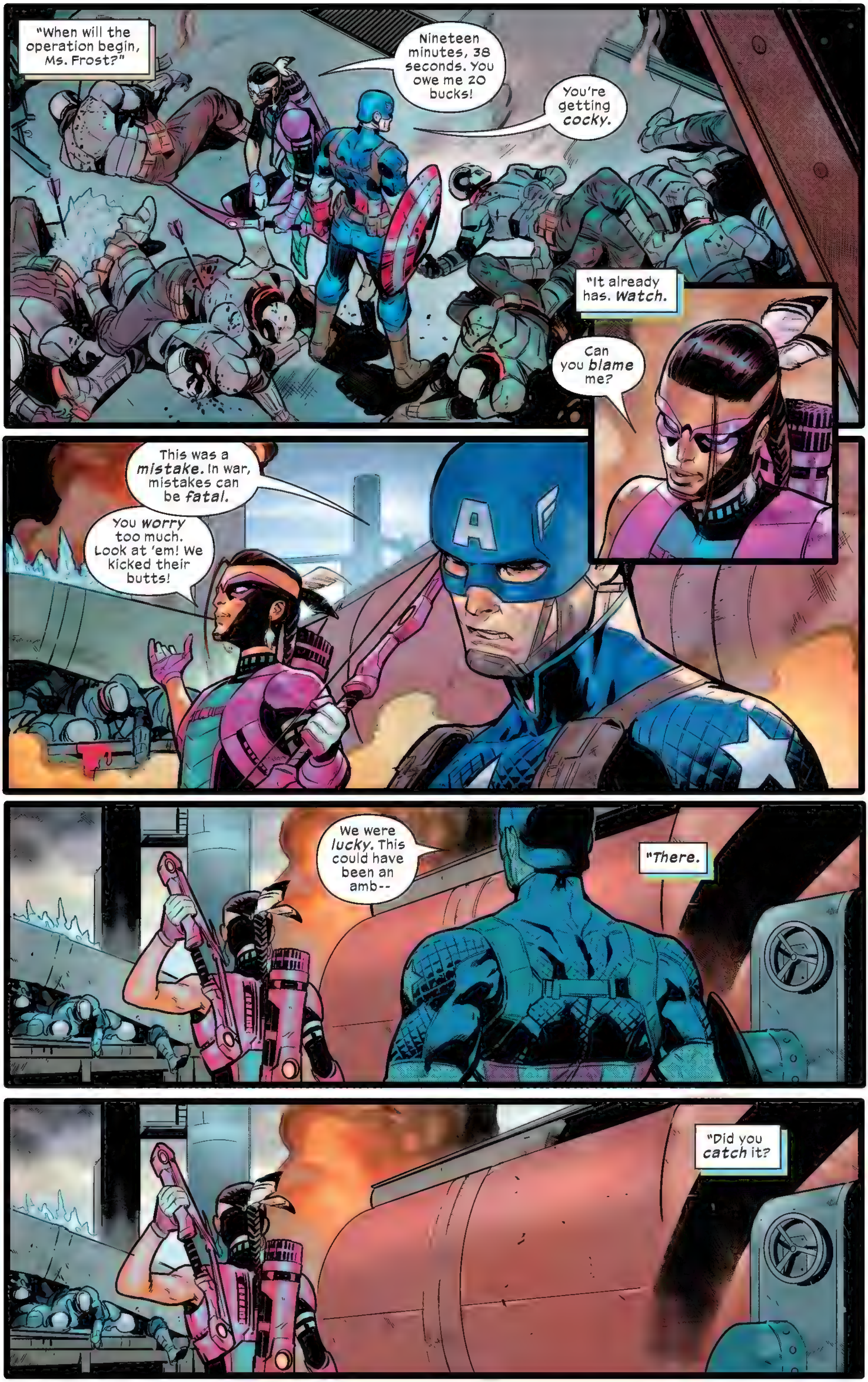

It *costs* what it *costs.* Certainly less than we stand to lose if we don't take care of this problem quickly. But this vendor's reputation is *diamond.*
What her people did in Fort McMurray--it was like *bloody poetry.* There's not been one word of protest since.

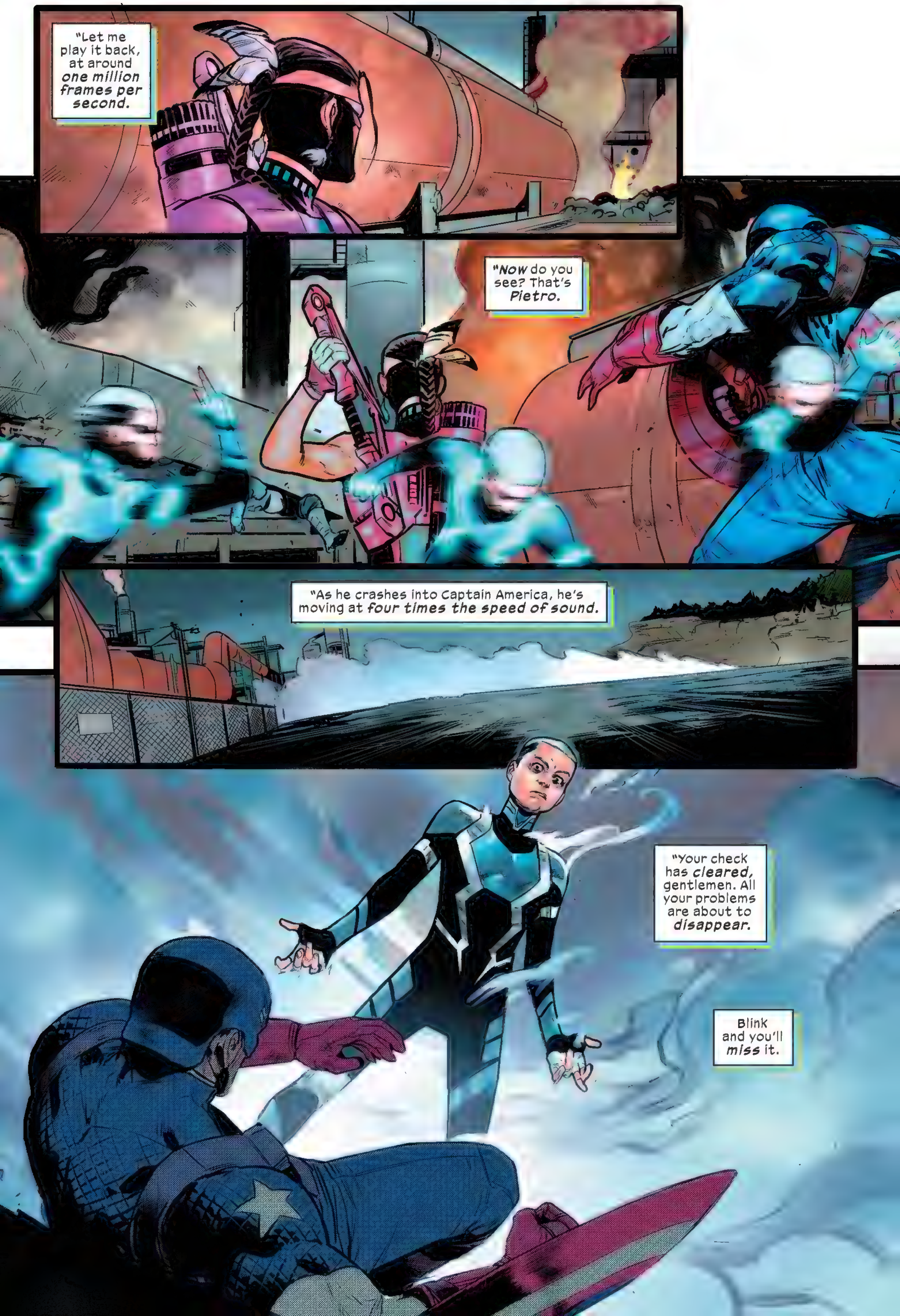

I only wish we'd had them against those Savage Land insurgents in the '70s.
Cavemen riding dinosaurs, boiling out of the bush...*brrr,* I need a *drink.*
HANDCRAFTED
BOURBON
WHISKY
SINCE 200C
9 YEARS

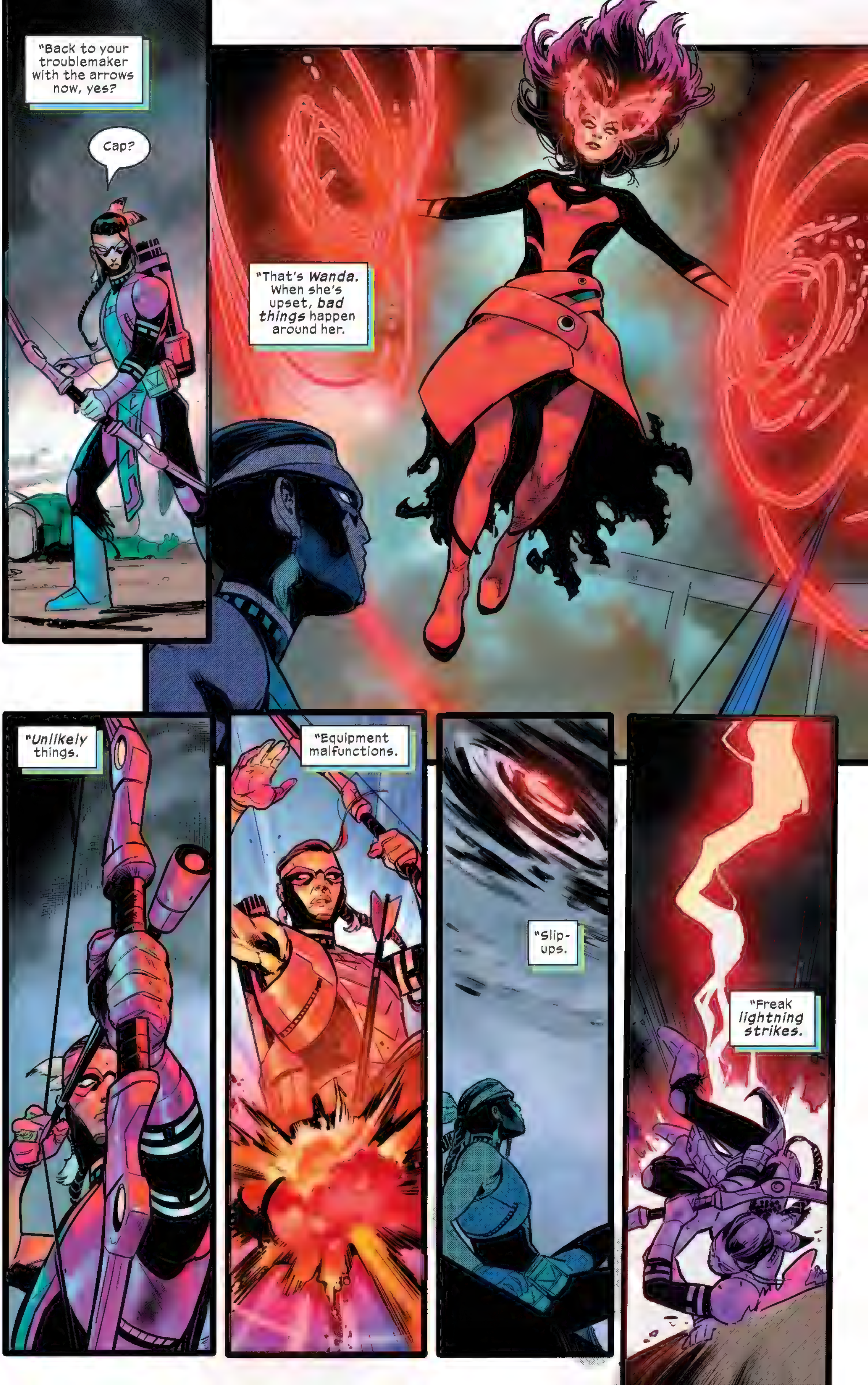

Shouldn't Da Costa be picking up part of this bill? I mean, it's *his--*
Be *careful,* Nicodemus. The *Black King* is a partner to all--a *silent* partner. He does not like his name spoken so *loosely.*
And if you'd like to complain about the bill, you can speak to him *yourself.*

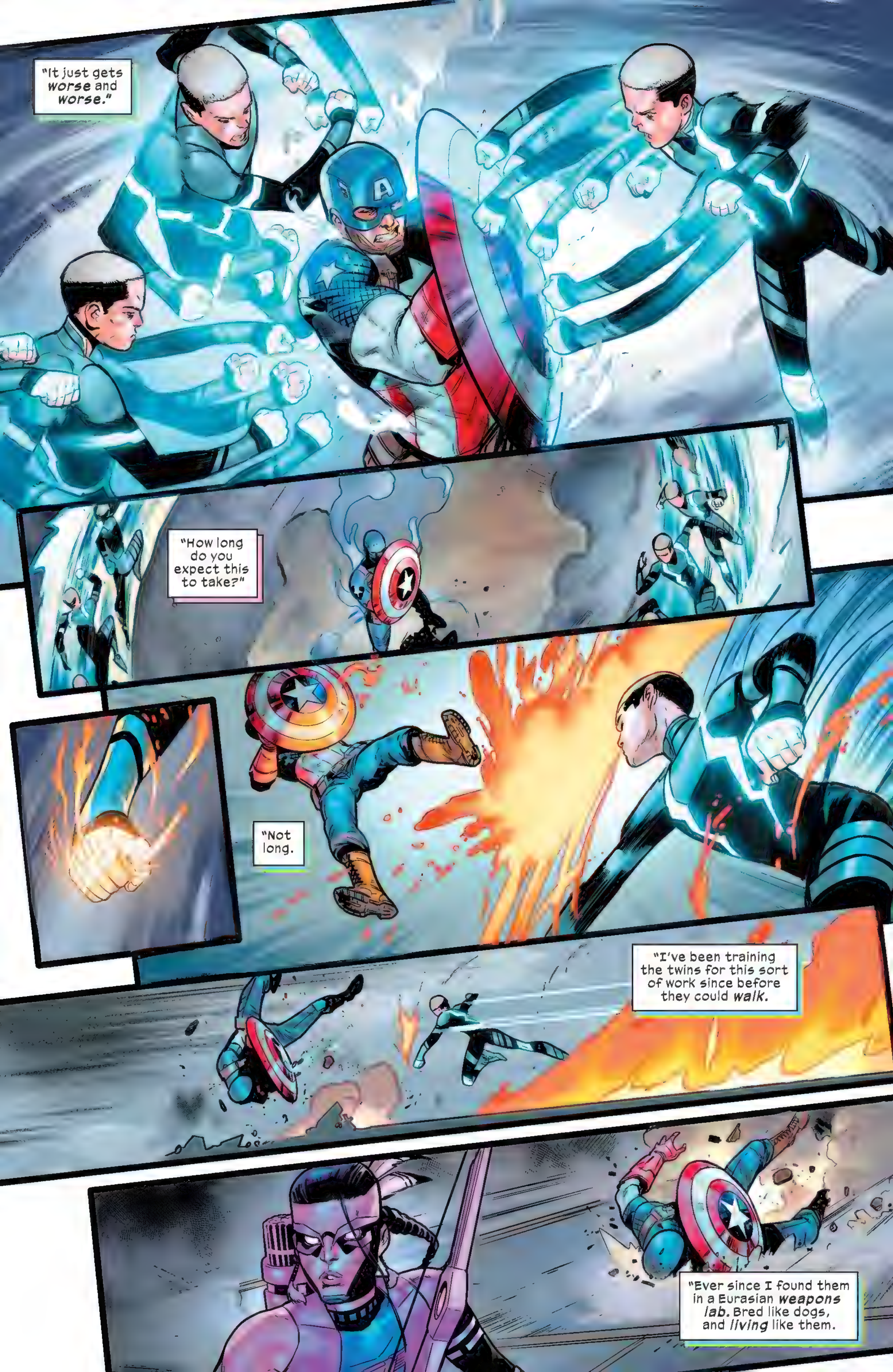

5 MINUTES INTO A 20-MINUTE BET.
9 MINUTES.
14 MINUTES.
ROXXON
18 MINUTES.

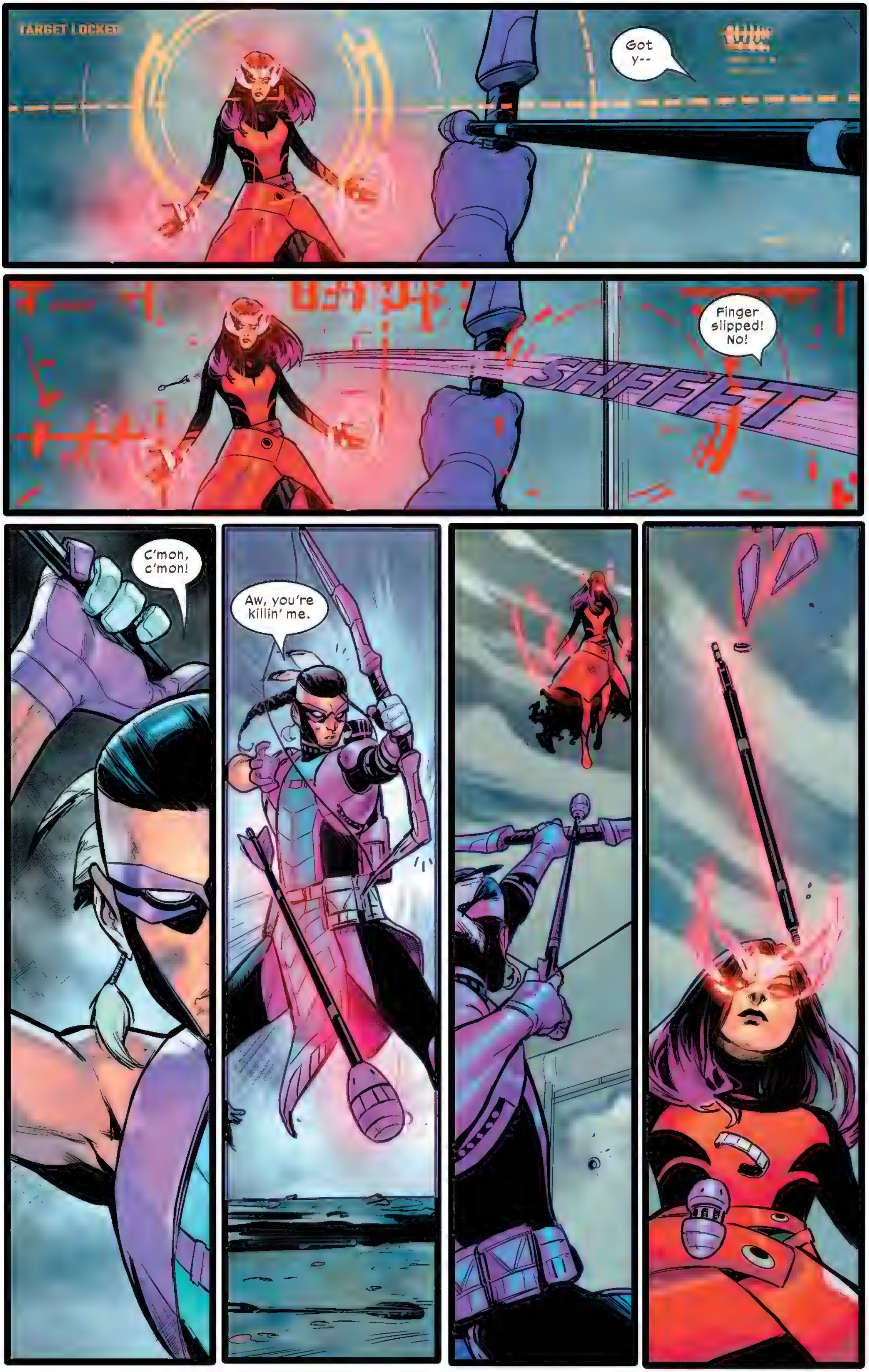

Ladies and gentlemen, I present *Emma Frost.*
Happy to have you on the team for this, Ms. Frost.
We all work for Hellfire, after all.
Everybody does, darling.
One way or another.
Ms. Frost runs a kind of...*well,* what would you *call* it, Ms. Frost?
A *school.* Children are my *passion.*
Well I must say, Ms. Frost, in this age of email and video conferencing, it's nice to know some people still understand the importance of the *personal* touch.
Our reputation is very important to us. With *Frost's School for Wayward Youngsters,* 100% satisfaction is *guaranteed.*
As you can see, we have *eyes* on your problem.
My god, she's in our minds--!
Please remain calm. This is all part of the service.
Wow.
Remarkable.
We call it *remote viewing.*

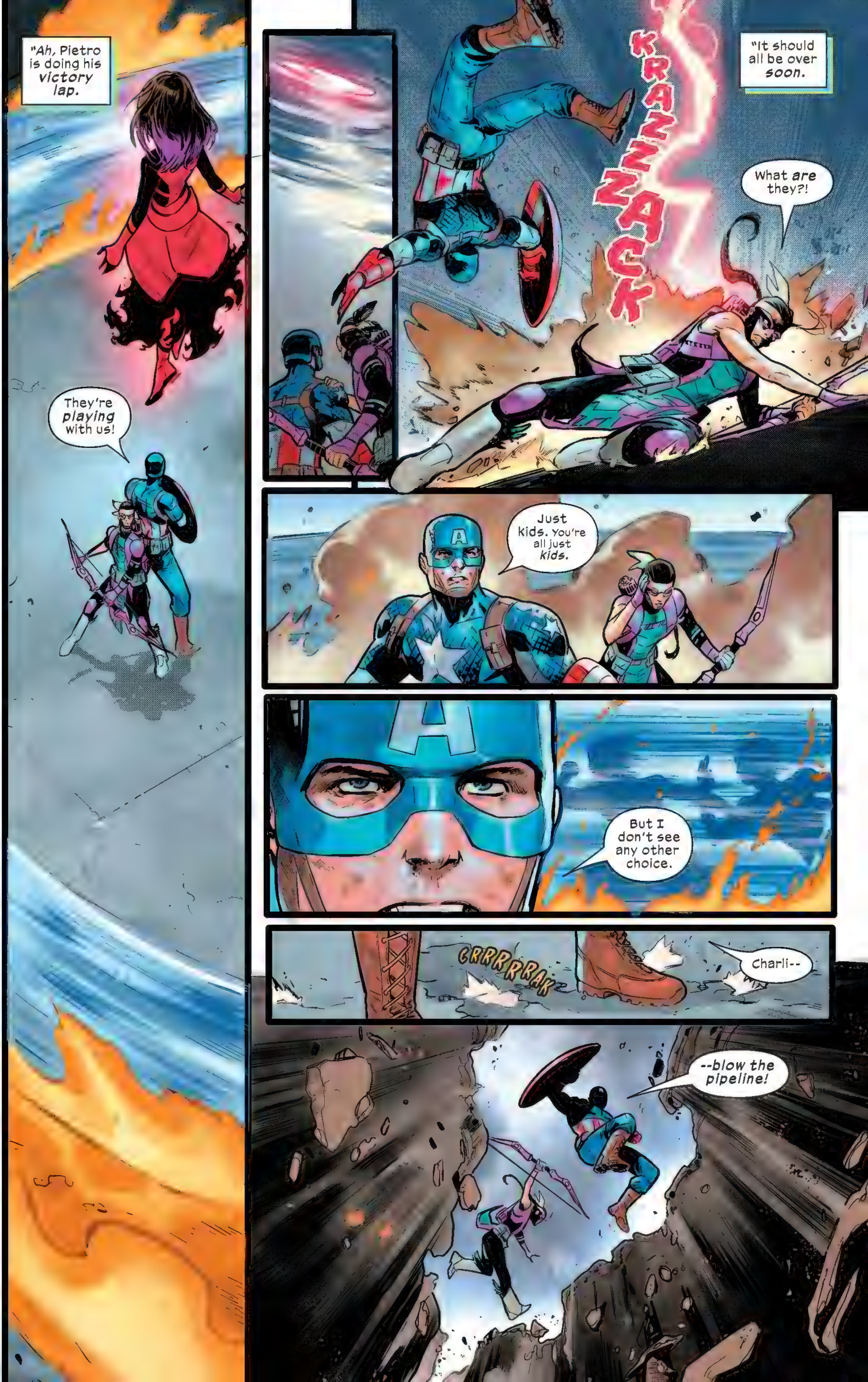

"When will the operation begin, Ms. Frost?"
Nineteen minutes, 38 seconds. You owe me 20 bucks!
You're getting *cocky.*
"It already has. *Watch.*
Can you *blame* me?
This was a *mistake.* In war, mistakes can be *fatal.*
You *worry* too much. Look at 'em! We kicked their butts!
We were *lucky.* This could have been an amb--
"*There.*
"Did you *catch* it?

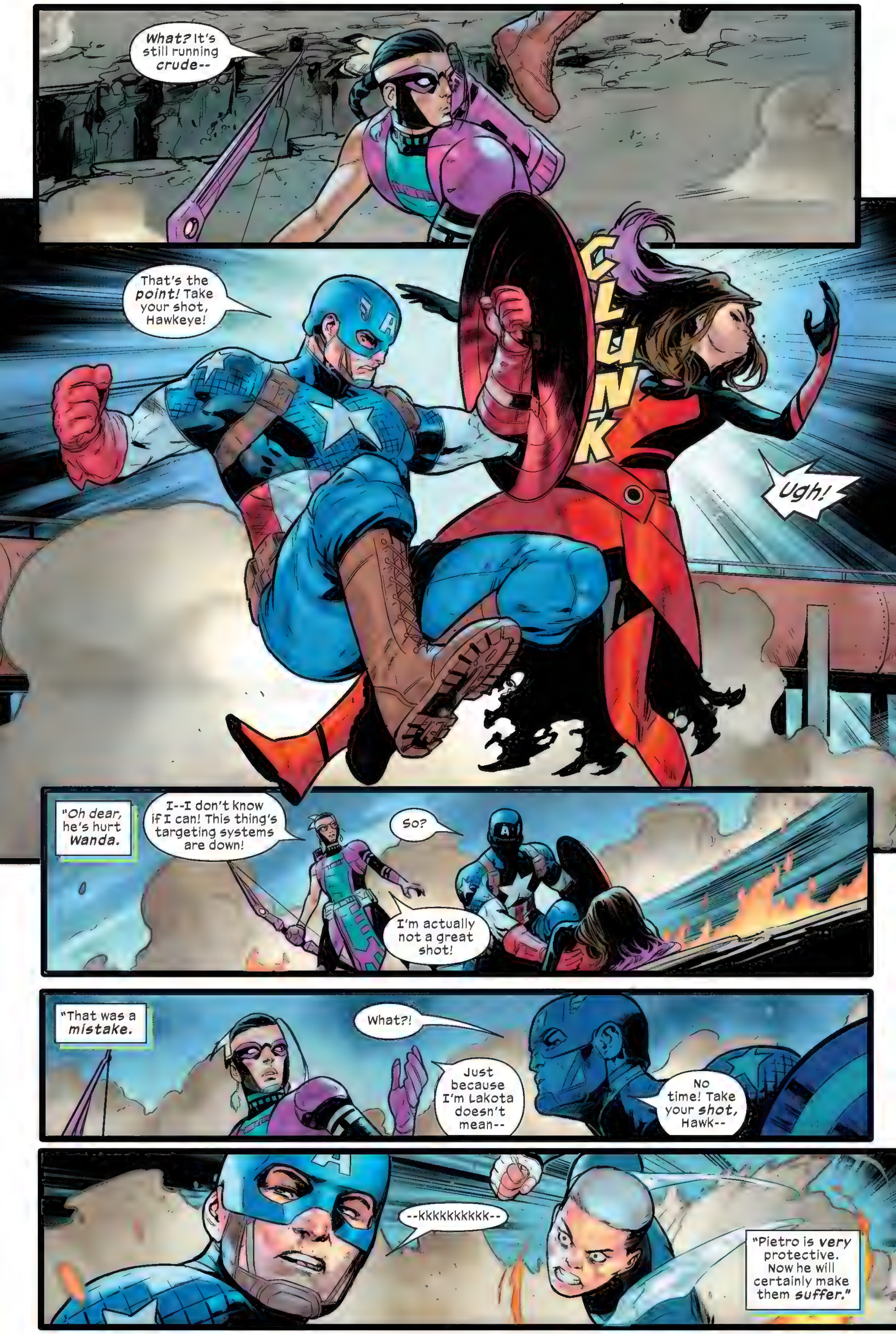

"Let me play it back, at around *one million frames per second.*
"*Now* do you see? That's *Pietro.*
"As he crashes into Captain America, he's moving at *four times the speed of sound.*
"Your check has *cleared,* gentlemen. All your problems are about to *disappear.*
Blink and you'll *miss* it.

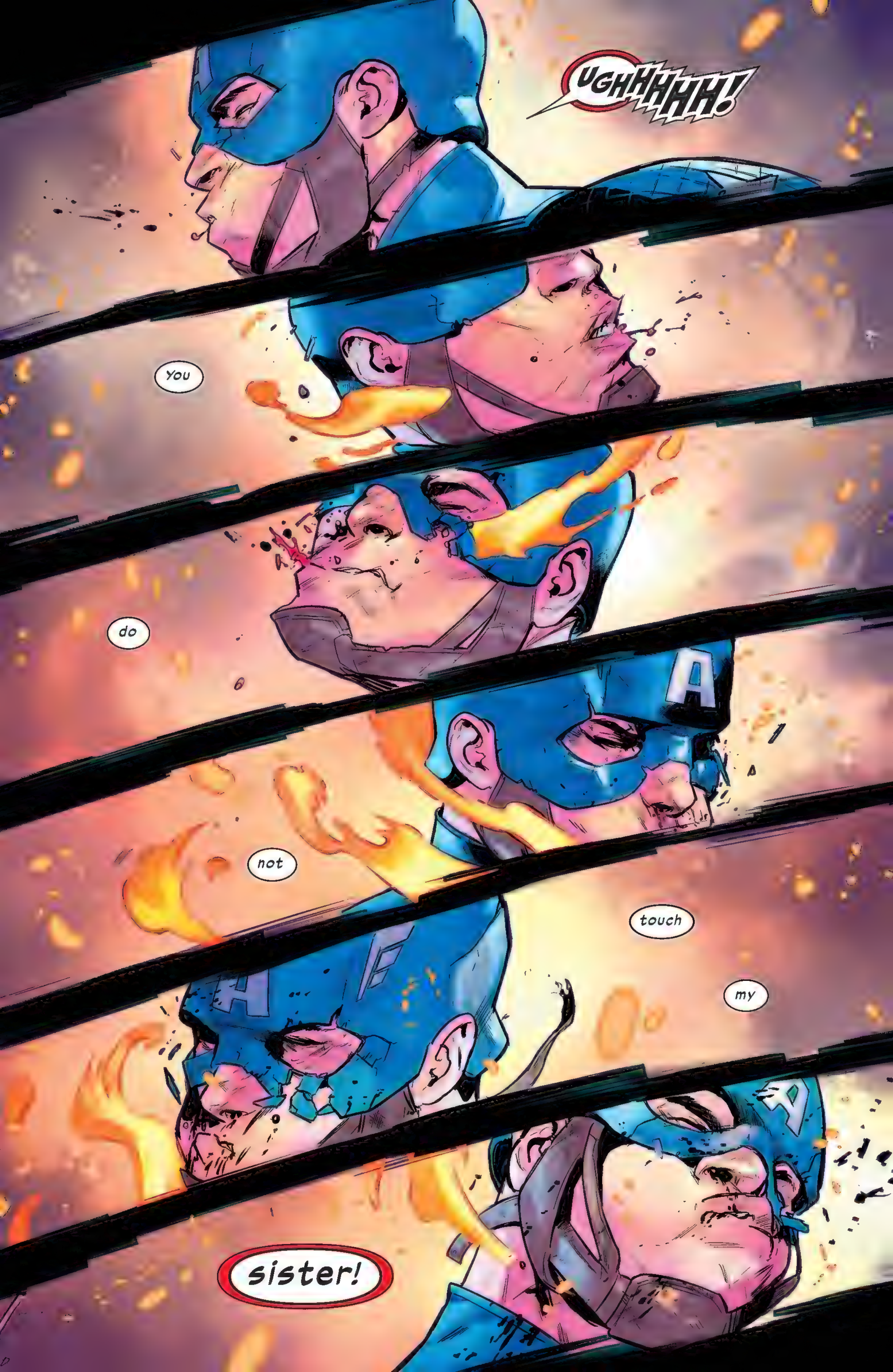

"Back to your troublemaker with the arrows now, yes?
Cap?
"That's *Wanda.* When she's upset, *bad things* happen around her.
"*Unlikely* things.
"Equipment malfunctions.
"Slip-ups.
"Freak *lightning strikes.*

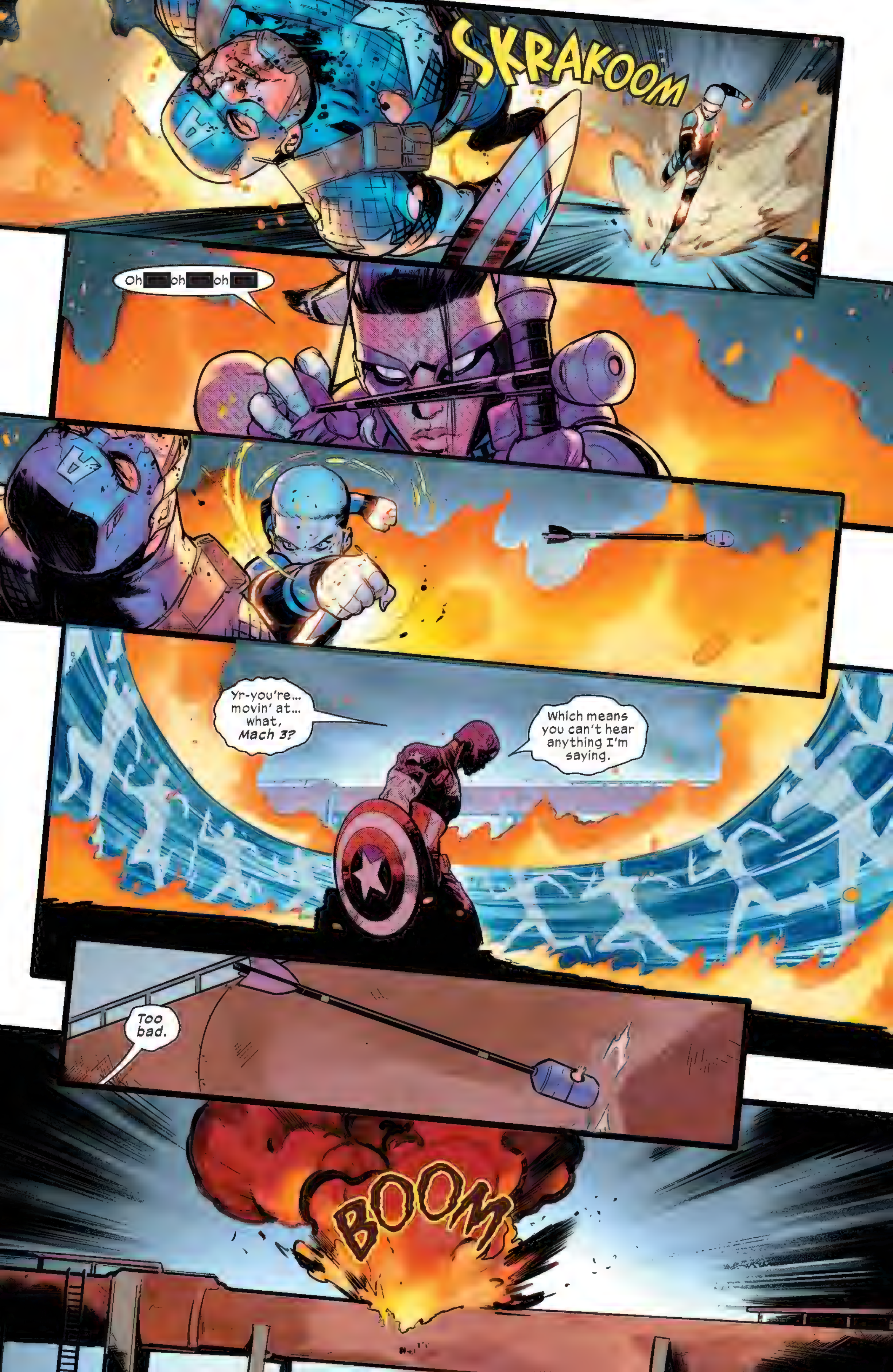

"It just gets *worse* and *worse*."
"How long do you expect this to take?"
"Not long.
"I've been training the twins for this sort of work since before they could *walk*.
"Ever since I found them in a Eurasian *weapons lab.* Bred like dogs, and *living* like them.

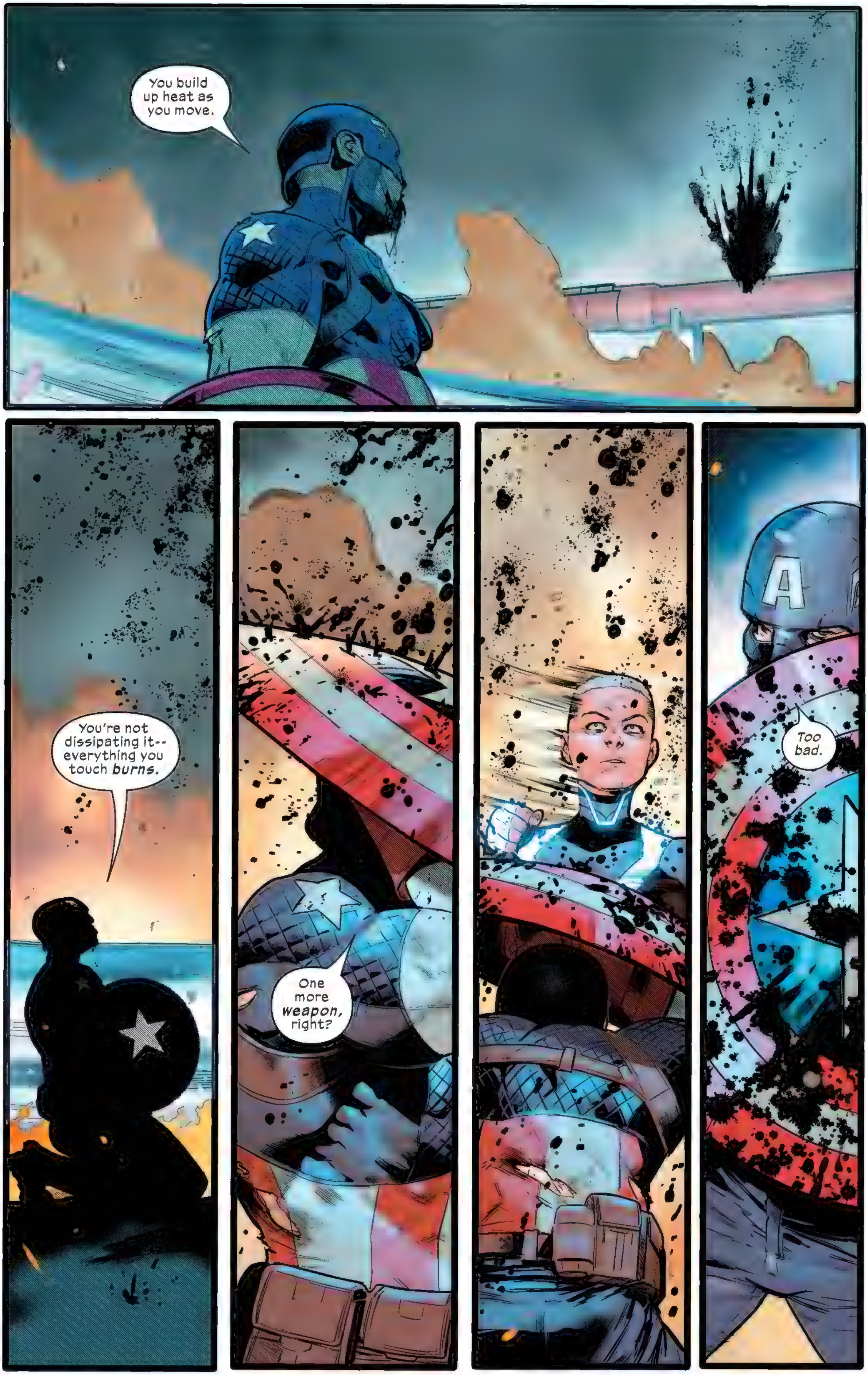

TARGET LOCKED
Got y--
SHFFFT
Finger slipped! No!
C'mon, c'mon!
Aw, you're killin' me.

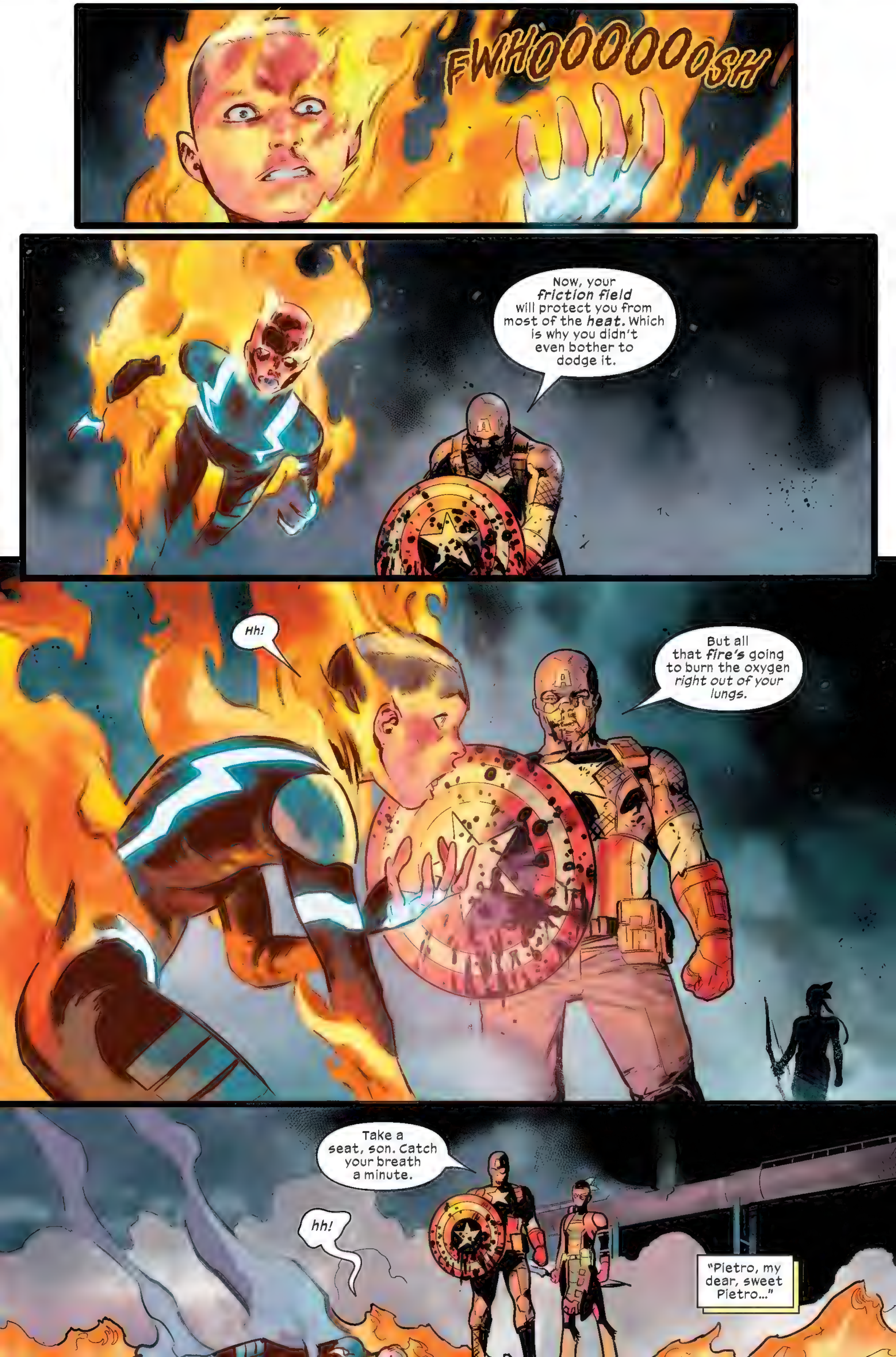

"Ah, Pietro is doing his *victory* lap.
They're *playing* with us!
"It should all be over *soon.*
KRAZZZACK
What *are* they?!
Just kids. You're all just *kids.*
But I don't see any other choice.
CRRRRRAK
Charli--
--blow the pipeline!

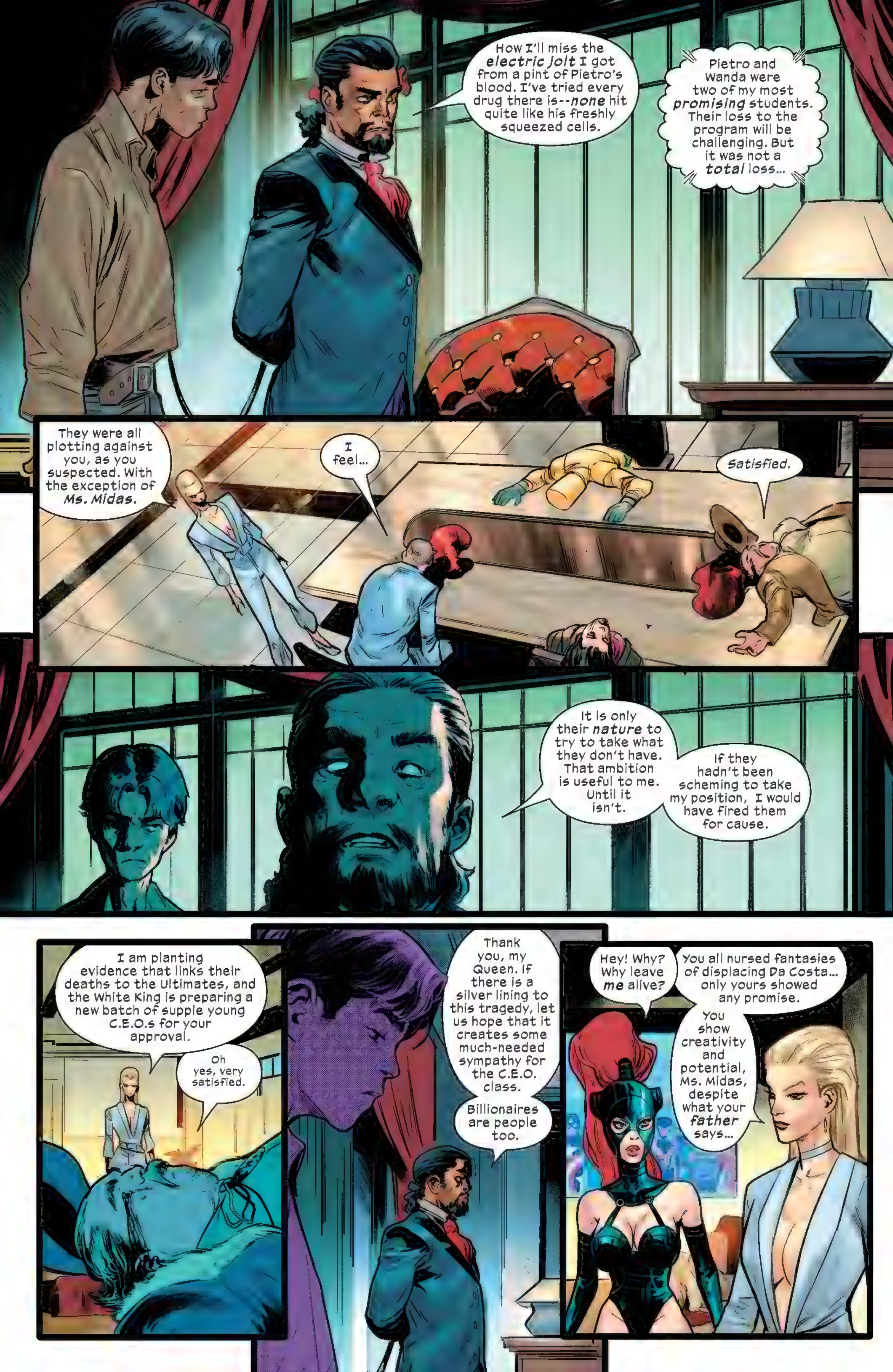

What? It's still running crude--
That's the point! Take your shot, Hawkeye!
CLUNK
Ugh!
"Oh dear, he's hurt Wanda.
I--I don't know if I can! This thing's targeting systems are down!
So?
I'm actually not a great shot!
"That was a mistake.
What?!
Just because I'm Lakota doesn't mean--
No time! Take your shot, Hawk--
--kkkkkkkkkk--
"Pietro is very protective. Now he will certainly make them suffer."

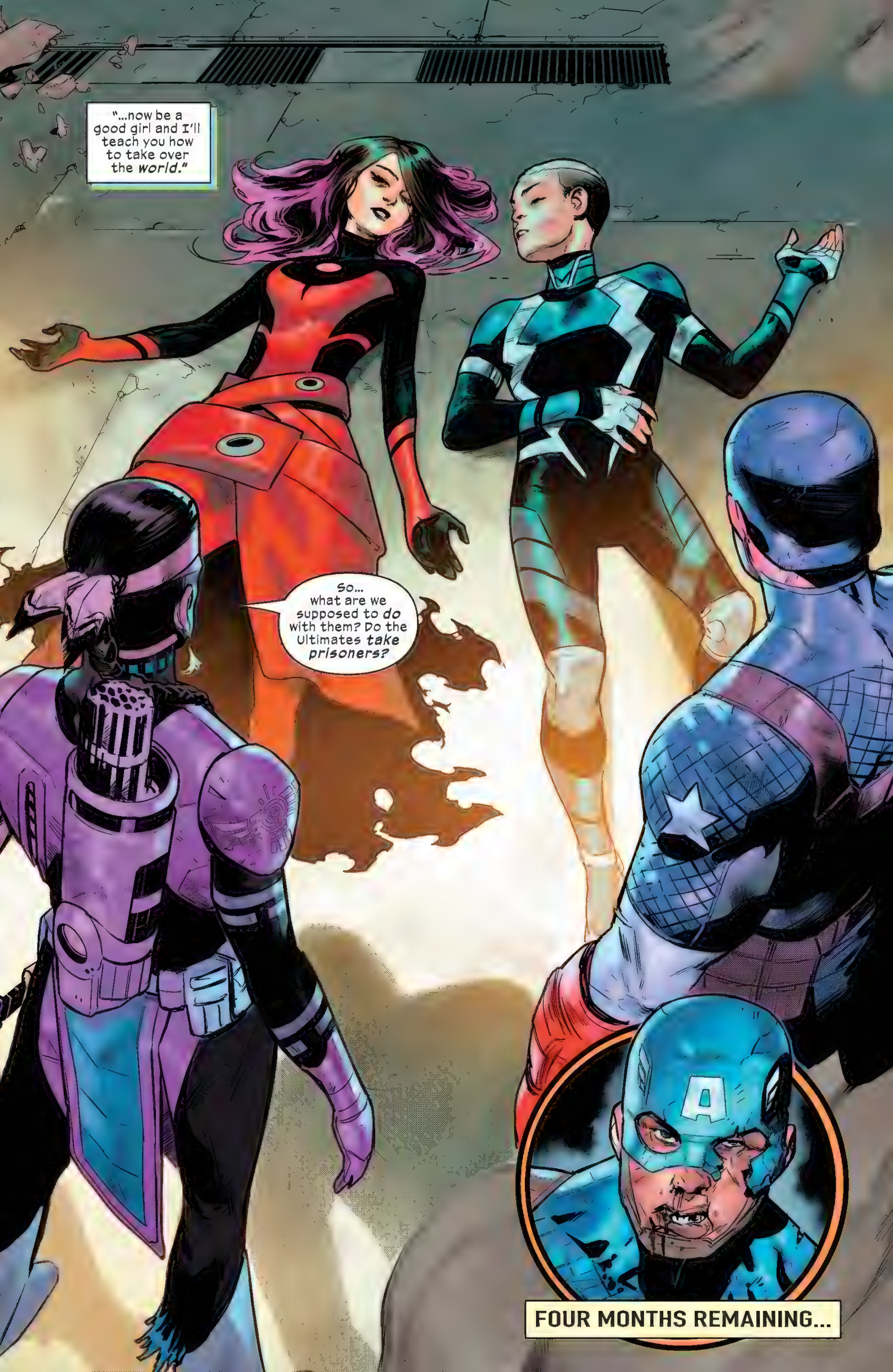

UGHHHHH!
you
do
not
touch
my
sister!


SKRAKOOM
Oh[redacted]oh[redacted]oh[redacted]
Yr-you're... movin' at... what, *Mach 3?*
Which means you can't hear anything I'm saying.
Too bad.
BOOM


You build up heat as you move.
You're not dissipating it--everything you touch *burns.*
One more *weapon,* right?
Too bad.


FWHOOOOOOOSH
Now, your *friction field* will protect you from most of the *heat.* Which is why you didn't even bother to dodge it.
Hh!
But all that *fire's* going to burn the oxygen *right out of your lungs.*
Take a seat, son. Catch your breath a minute.
hh!
"Pietro, my dear, sweet Pietro..."


How I'll miss the *electric jolt* I got from a pint of Pietro's blood. I've tried every drug there is--*none* hit quite like his freshly squeezed cells.
Pietro and Wanda were two of my most *promising* students. Their loss to the program will be challenging. But it was not a *total* loss...
They were all plotting against you, as you suspected. With the exception of *Ms. Midas.*
I feel...
Satisfied.
It is only their *nature* to try to take what they don't have. That ambition is useful to me. Until it isn't.
If they hadn't been scheming to take my position, I would have fired them for cause.
I am planting evidence that links their deaths to the Ultimates, and the White King is preparing a new batch of supple young C.E.O.s for your approval.
Oh yes, very satisfied.
Thank you, my Queen. If there is a silver lining to this tragedy, let us hope that it creates some much-needed sympathy for the C.E.O. class.
Billionaires are people too.
Hey! Why? Why leave *me* alive?
You all nursed fantasies of displacing Da Costa... only yours showed any promise.
You show creativity and potential, Ms. Midas, despite what your *father* says...


"...now be a good girl and I'll teach you how to take over the *world.*"
So... what are we supposed to *do* with them? Do the Ultimates *take prisoners?*
FOUR MONTHS REMAINING...

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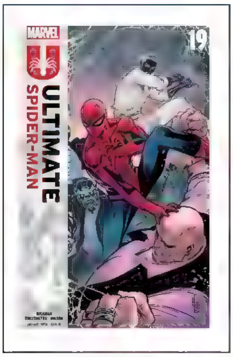
MARVEL
THE ULTIMATES
15
CAMP RANDAL BLEE

ON SALE IN **AUGUST**

ON SALE THIS MONTH


MARVEL
ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN
19

ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN #19

BY **JONATHAN HICKMAN**
& **MARCO CHECCHETTO**

MARVEL
ULTIMATE BLACK PANTHER

ULTIMATE BLACK PANTHER #18

BY **BRYAN HILL**
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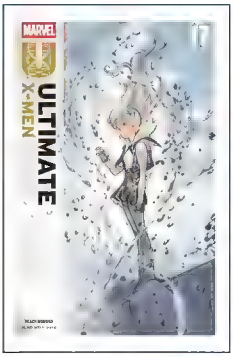
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ULTIMATE X-MEN
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ULTIMATE X-MEN #17

BY **PEACH MOMOKO**

MARVEL
ULTIMATE WOLVERINE
7

ULTIMATE WOLVERINE #7

BY **CHRIS CONDON** &
ALESSANDRO CAPPUCCIO

MARVEL
ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN: INCURSION

ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN: INCURSION #2

BY **DENIZ CAMP, CODY ZIGLAR**
& **JONAS SCHARF**

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU! EMAIL US AT **ULTIMATEOFFICE@MARVEL.COM** AND MARK YOUR LETTERS **"OKAY TO PRINT"**!

7

A diabolical genius known as **THE MAKER** used time travel to create his ideal Earth by systematically preventing anyone from ever becoming a super hero and by establishing a secret council of super villains, **THE MAKER'S COUNCIL**, that rules the world from the shadows.

Three of those council members--**COLOSSUS**, **MAGIK** and **OMEGA RED**--run the **EURASIAN REPUBLIC**, one of two places in the world for all known mutant activity. Through their government's top-secret division "**DIRECTORATE X**," headed by **DR. ALONYA PROSTOVICH** and designed to exploit the unique genetic powers exhibited in mutantkind, they have turned the mutant known as **LOGAN** into their most lethal weapon, the brainwashed **WINTER SOLDIER**.

His mission? To destroy a group of mutant freedom fighters known as **THE OPPOSITION**. But after he was knocked unconscious in a battle with **VICTOR CREED**, an old friend he could not recognize, he was brought into the Opposition's custody and broken from the mental shackles that controlled him...

ULTIMATE WOLVERINE

CAST:

WOLVERINE/ THE WINTER SOLDIER
LOGAN

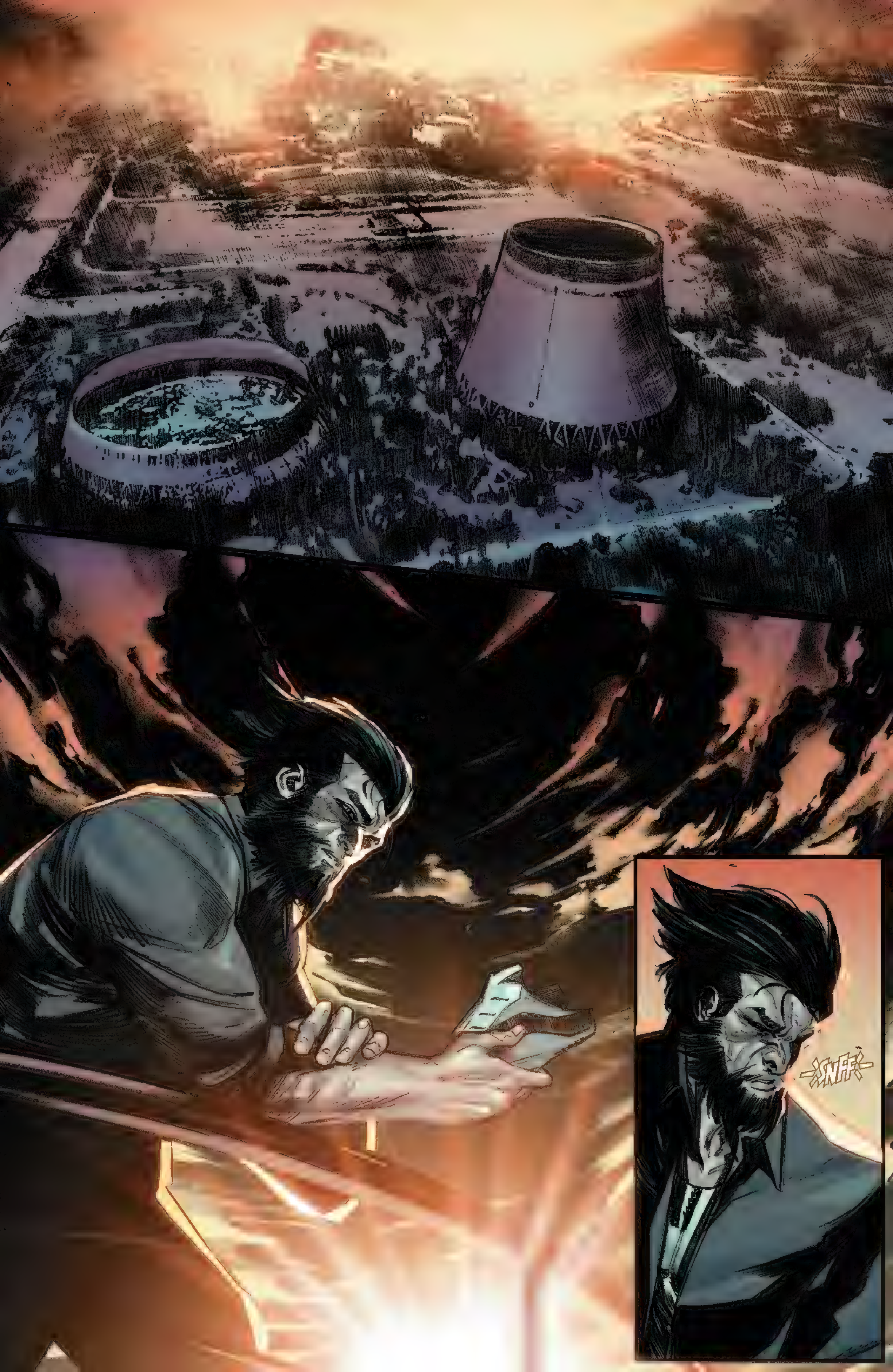
COLOSSUS
PIOTR RASPUTIN

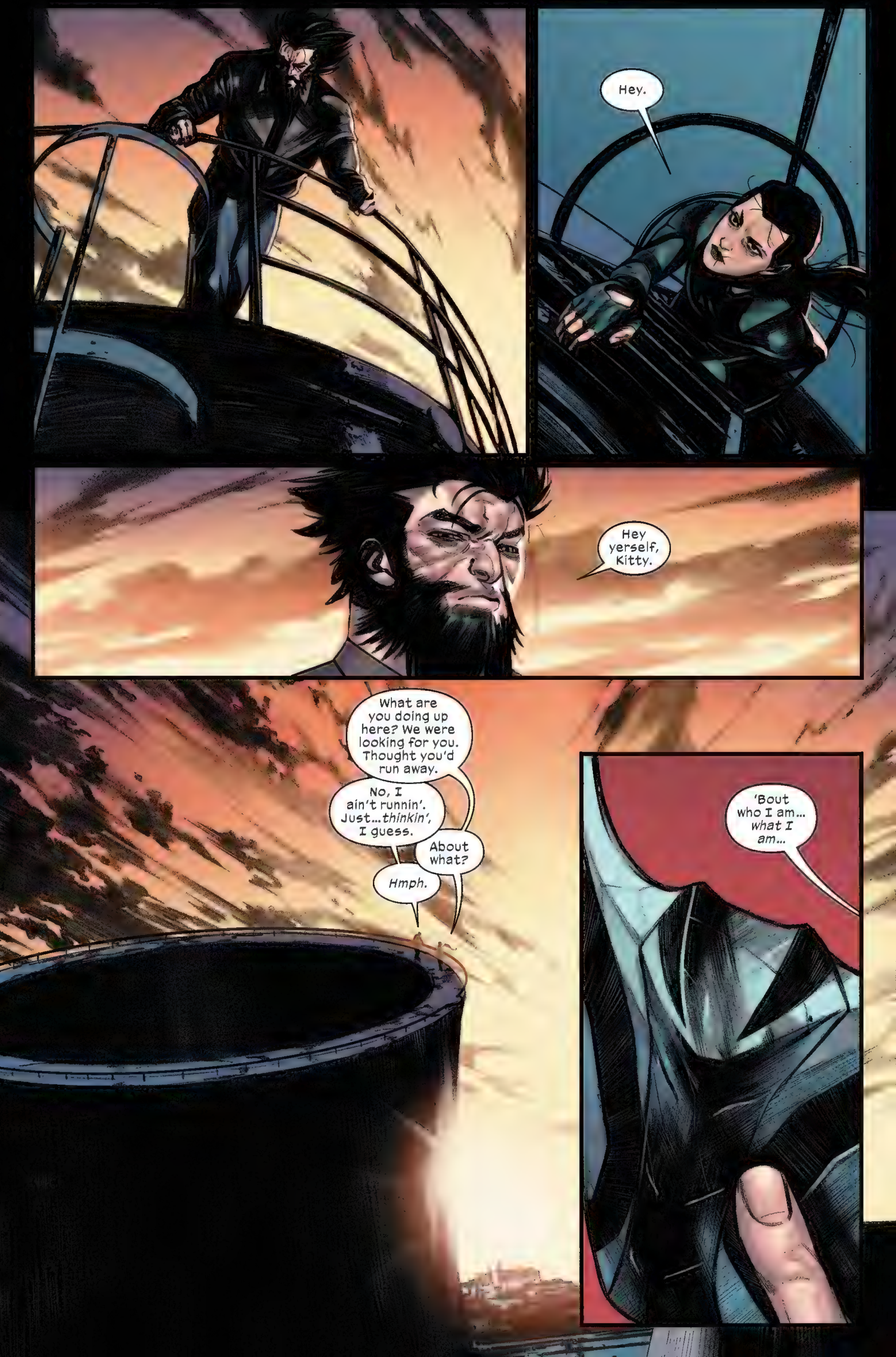
MAGIK
ILLYANA RASPUTIN

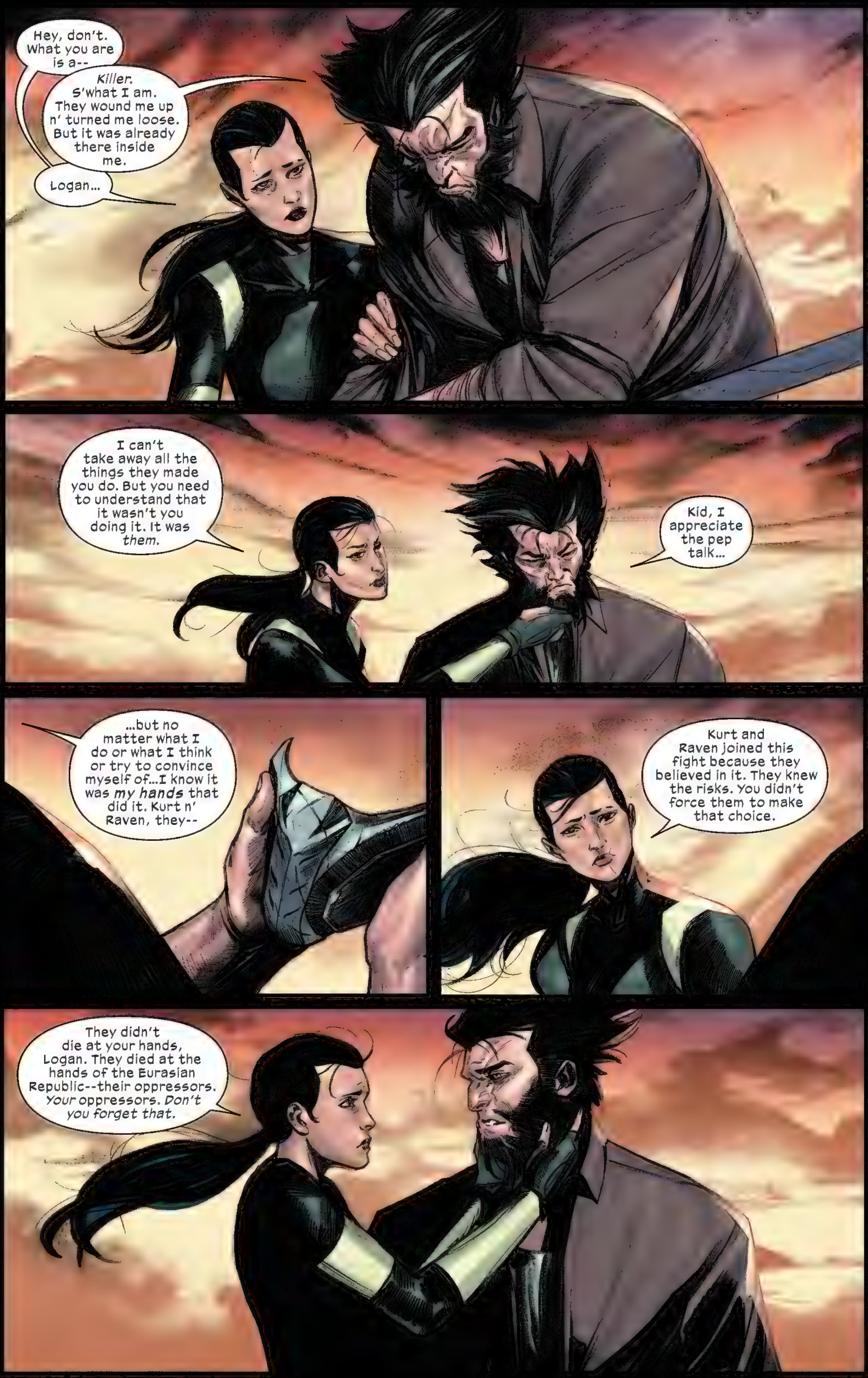
OMEGA RED
ARKADY ROSSOVICH

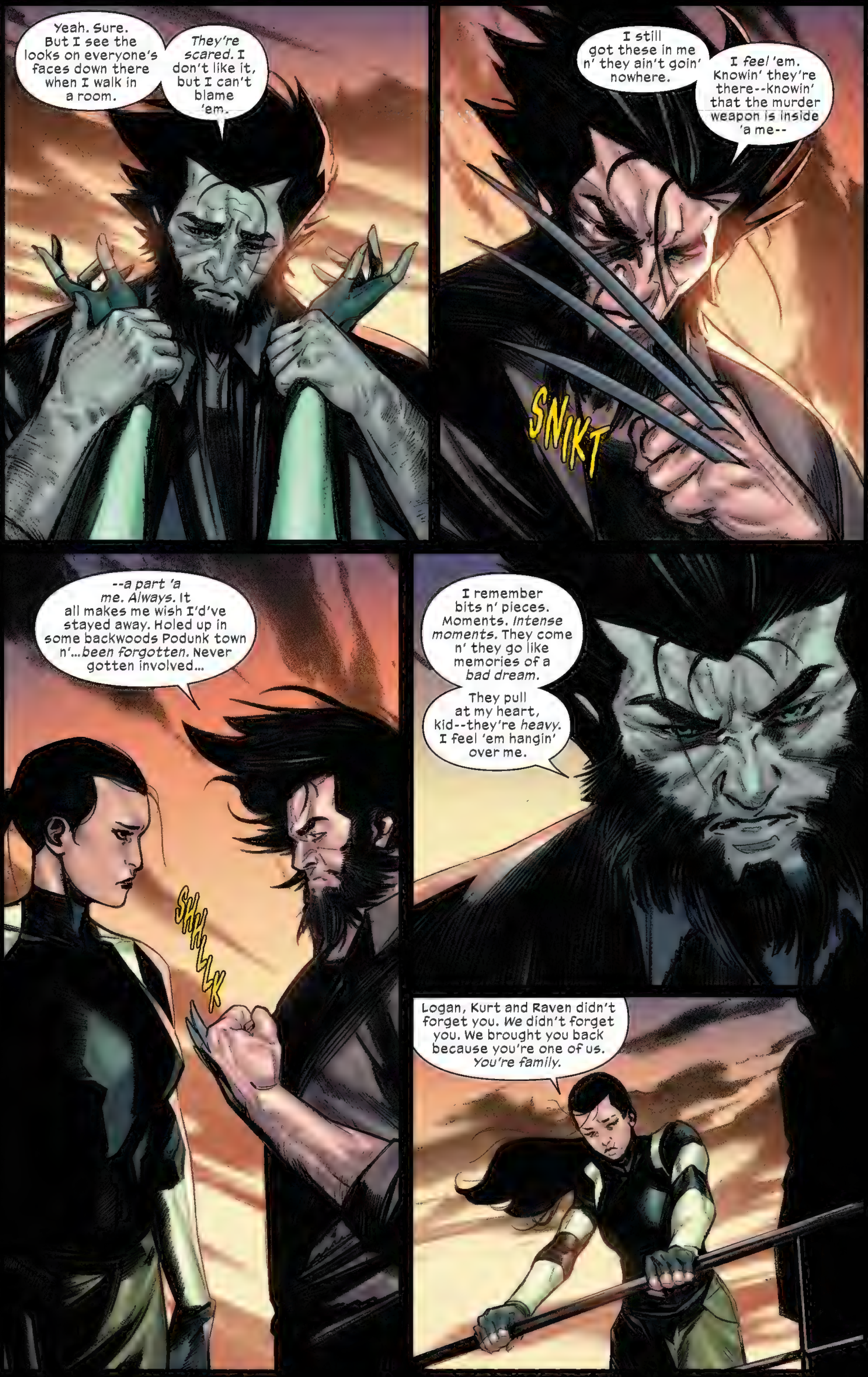
DR. ALONYA PROSTOVICH
DIRECTORATE X
RESEARCH HEAD

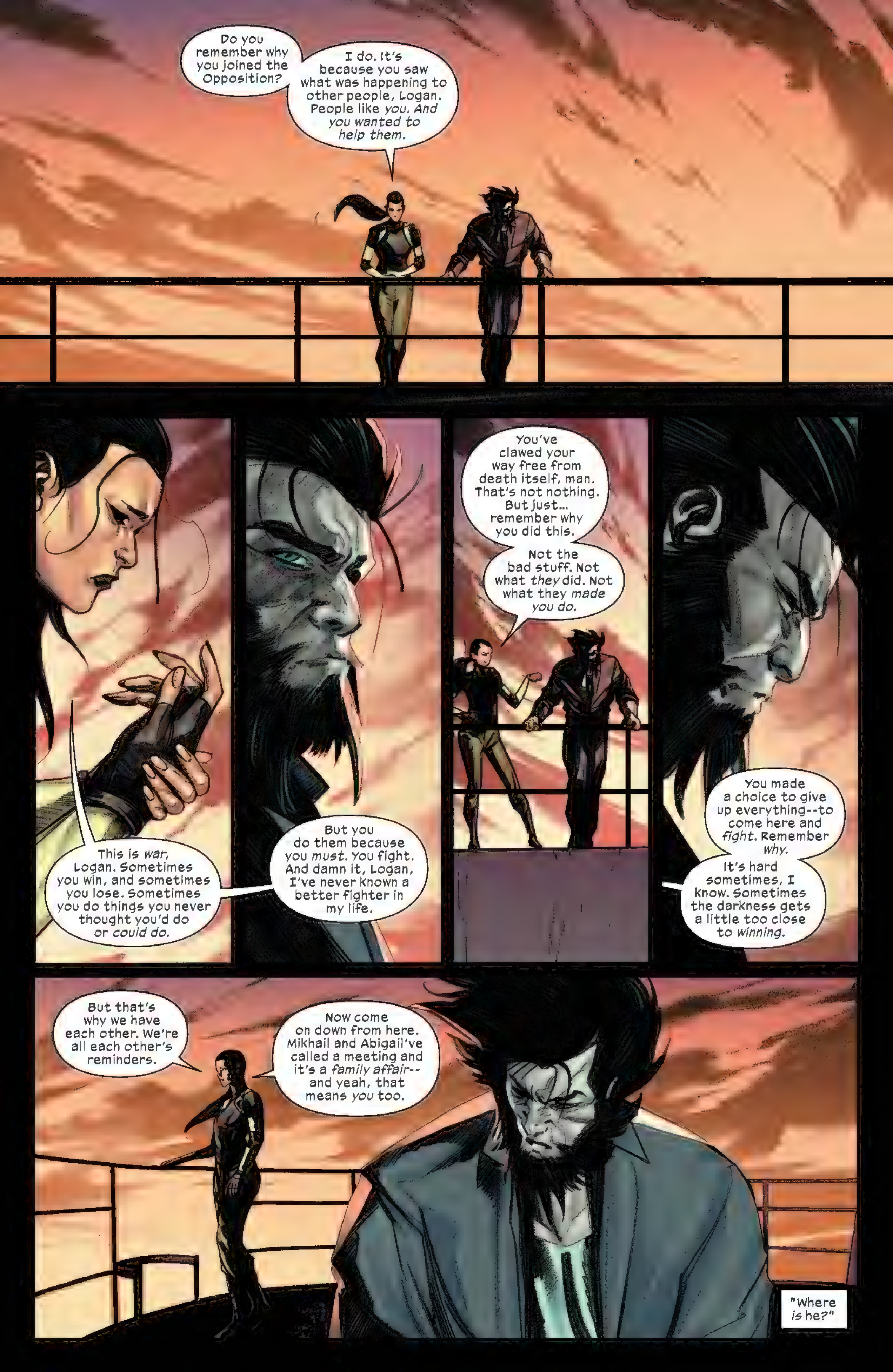
JULY 2025

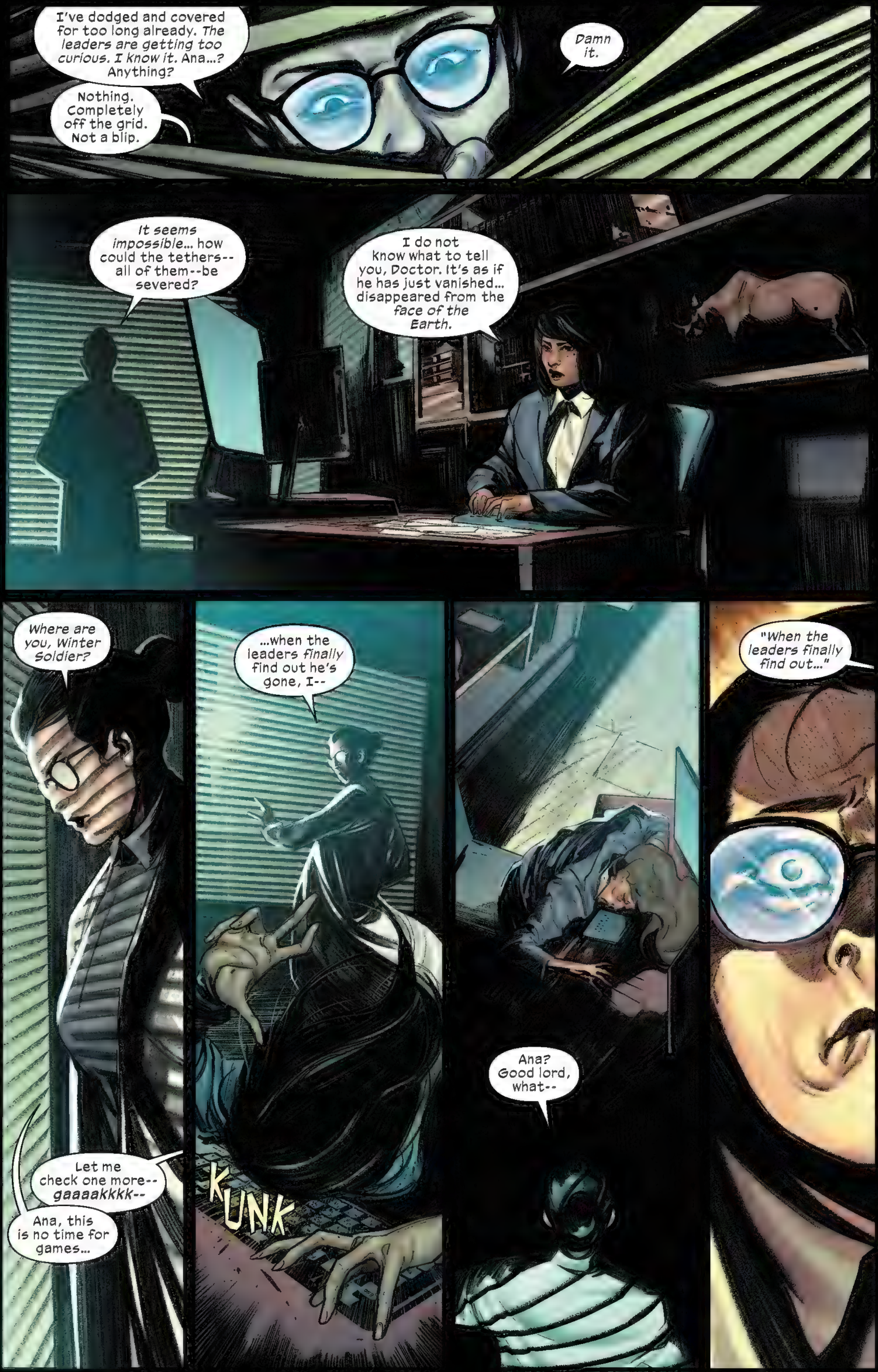

SNFF

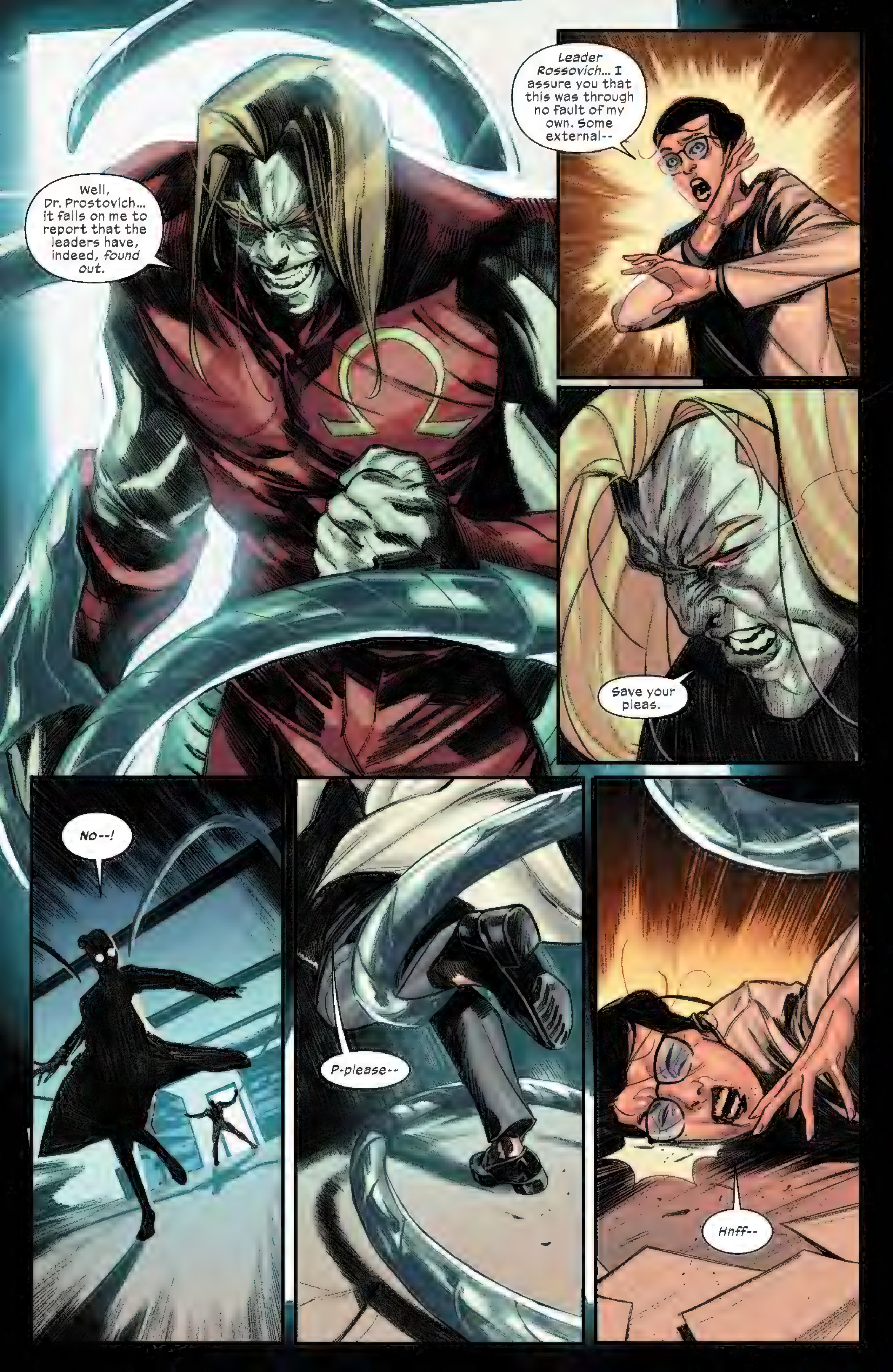

Hey.
Hey yerself, Kitty.
What are you doing up here? We were looking for you. Thought you'd run away.
No, I ain't runnin'. Just...*thinkin'*, I guess.
About what?
Hmph.
'Bout who I am... *what I* am...

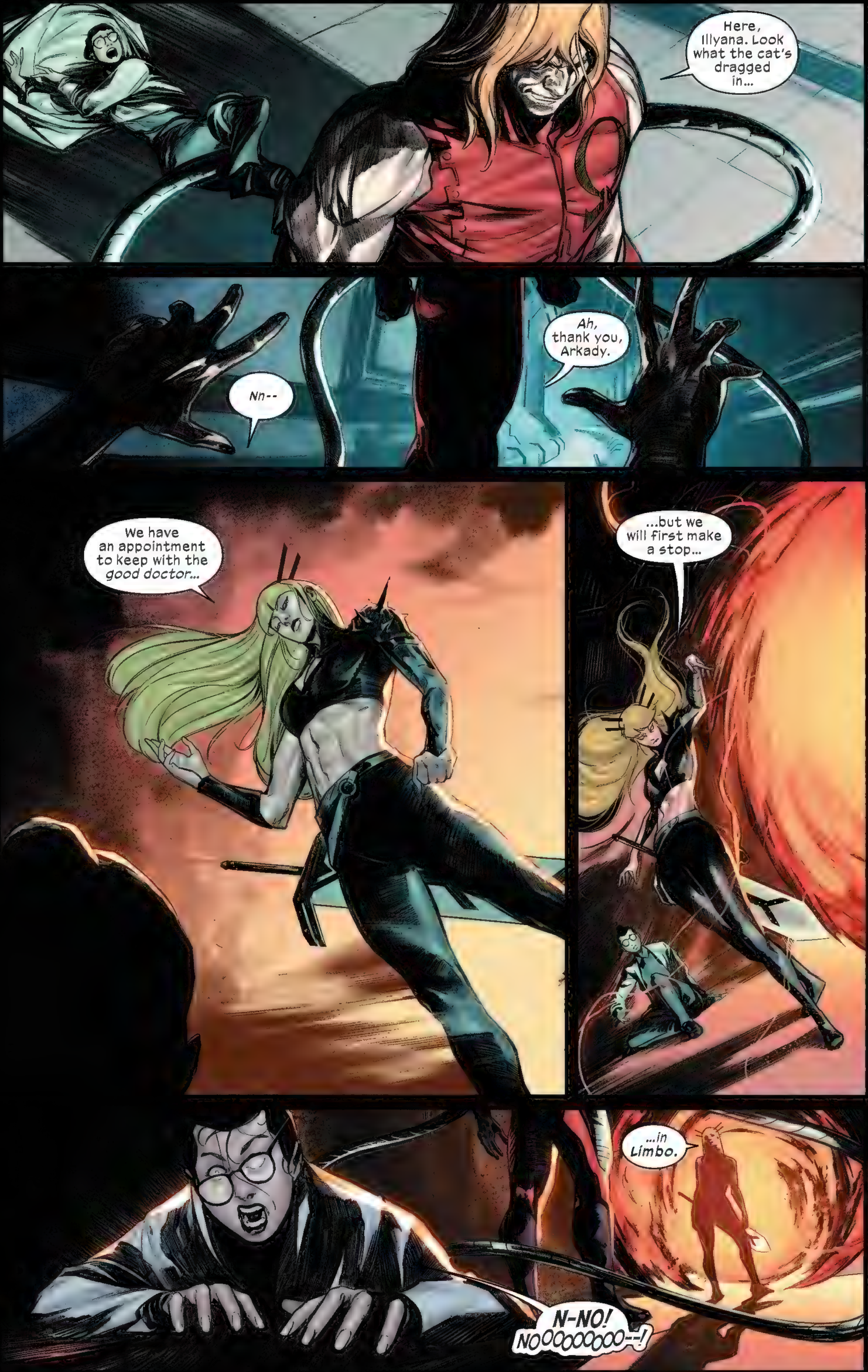

Hey, don't. What you are is a--
Killer. S'what I am. They wound me up n' turned me loose. But it was already there inside me.
Logan...
I can't take away all the things they made you do. But you need to understand that it wasn't you doing it. It was *them.*
Kid, I appreciate the pep talk...
...but no matter what I do or what I think or try to convince myself of...I know it was *my hands* that did it. Kurt n' Raven, they--
Kurt and Raven joined this fight because they believed in it. They knew the risks. You didn't force them to make that choice.
They didn't die at your hands, Logan. They died at the hands of the Eurasian Republic--their oppressors. *Your* oppressors. *Don't you forget that.*

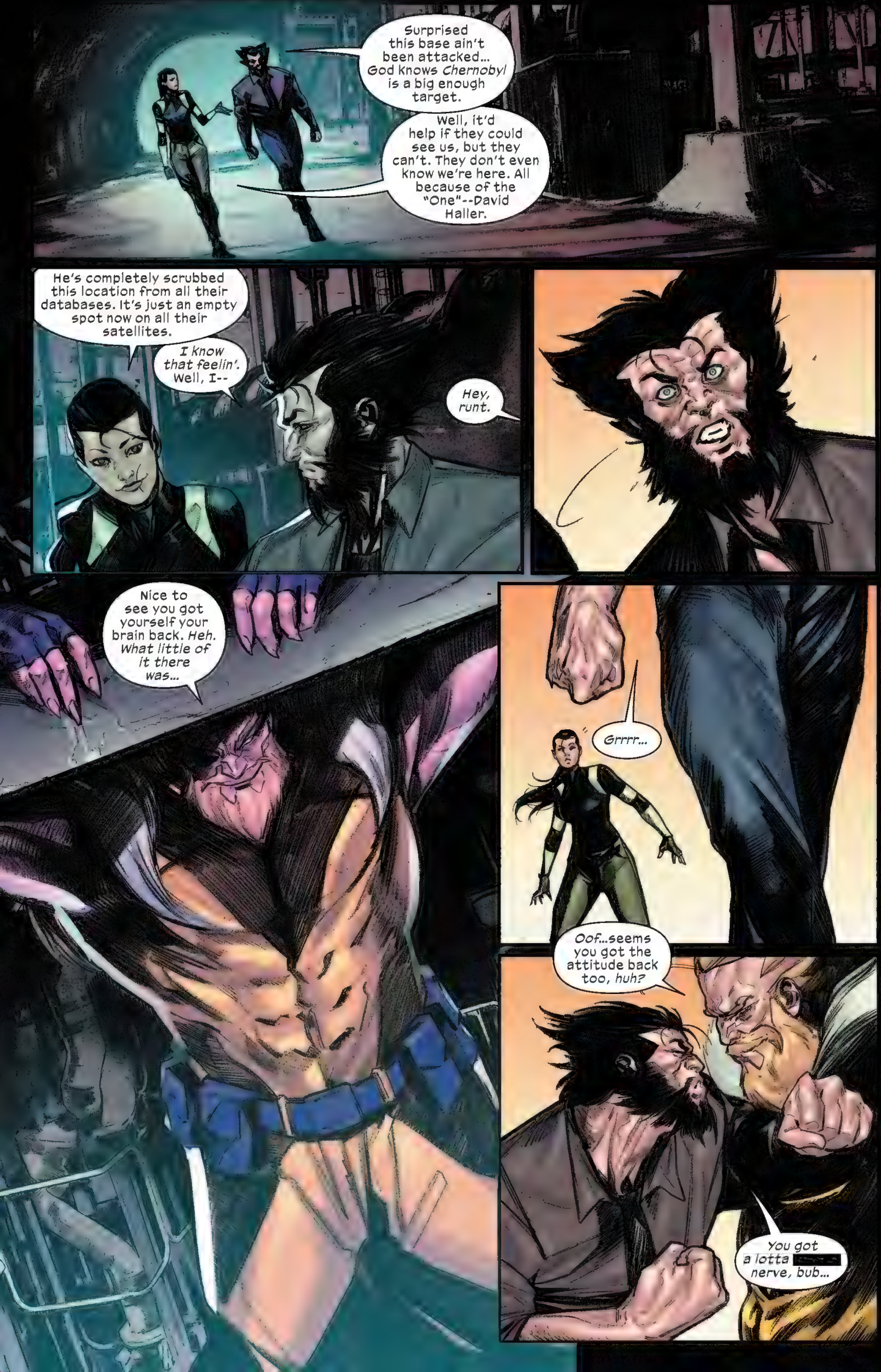

Yeah. Sure. But I see the looks on everyone's faces down there when I walk in a room.
They're scared. I don't like it, but I can't blame 'em.
I still got these in me n' they ain't goin' nowhere.
I *feel* 'em. Knowin' they're there--knowin' that the murder weapon is inside 'a me--
SNIKT
--*a part 'a me. Always.* It all makes me wish I'd've stayed away. Holed up in some backwoods Podunk town n'...*been forgotten.* Never gotten involved...
SHHLLK
I remember bits n' pieces. Moments. *Intense moments.* They come n' they go like memories of a *bad dream.*
They pull at my heart, kid--they're *heavy.* I feel 'em hangin' over me.
Logan, Kurt and Raven didn't forget you. *We* didn't forget you. We brought you back because you're one of us. *You're family.*

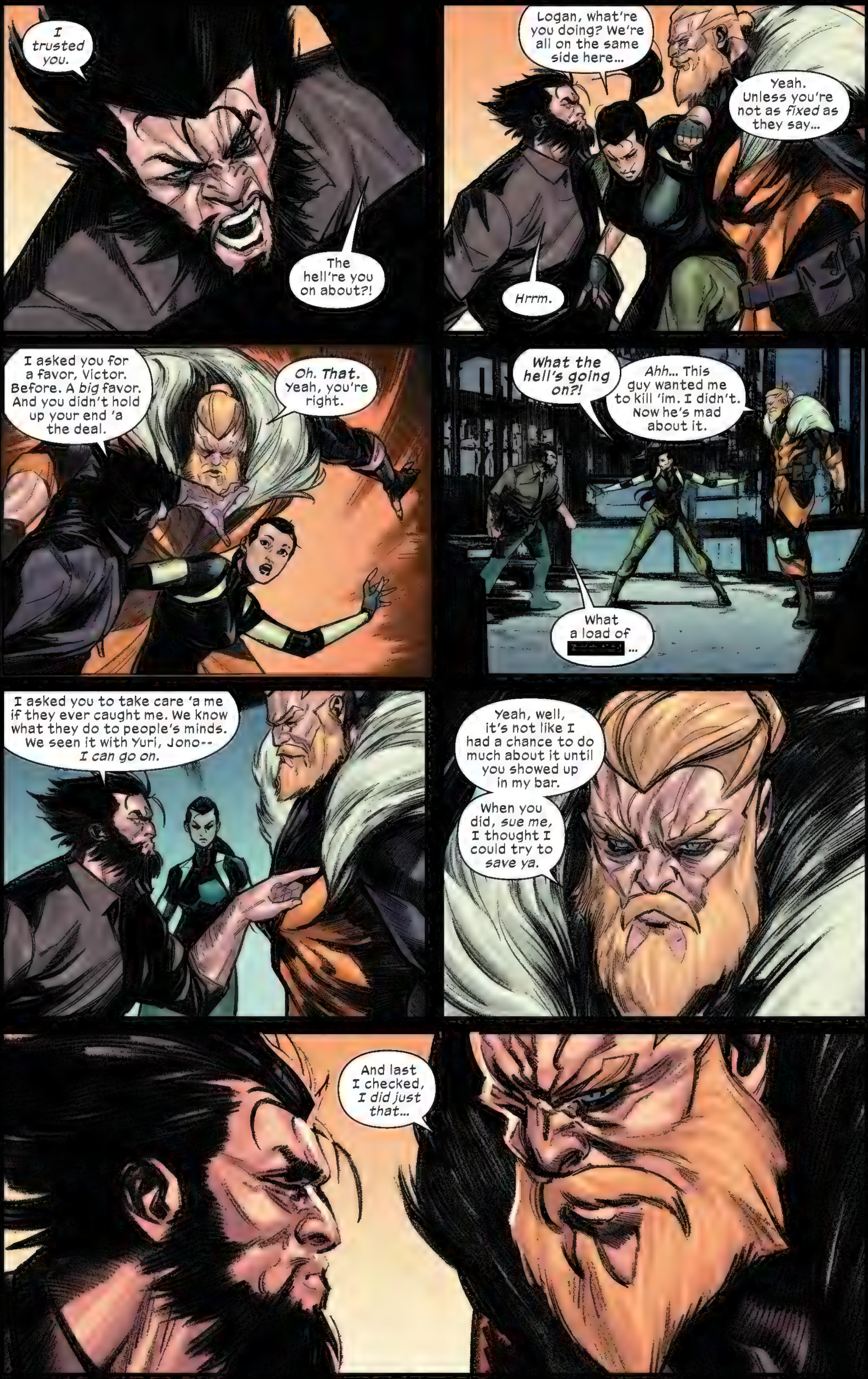

Do you remember why you joined the Opposition?
I do. It's because you saw what was happening to other people, Logan. People like *you*. And *you wanted to help them.*
This is *war*, Logan. Sometimes you win, and sometimes you lose. Sometimes you do things you never thought you'd do or *could do.*
But you do them because you *must*. You fight. And damn it, Logan, I've never known a better fighter in my life.
You've clawed your way free from death itself, man. That's not nothing. But just... remember why you did this.
Not the bad stuff. Not what *they* did. Not what they *made you do.*
You made a choice to give up everything--to come here and *fight*. Remember *why*.
It's hard sometimes, I know. Sometimes the darkness gets a little too close to *winning*.
But that's why we have each other. We're all each other's reminders.
Now come on down from here. Mikhail and Abigail've called a meeting and it's a *family affair*--and yeah, that means *you* too.
"Where *is* he?"

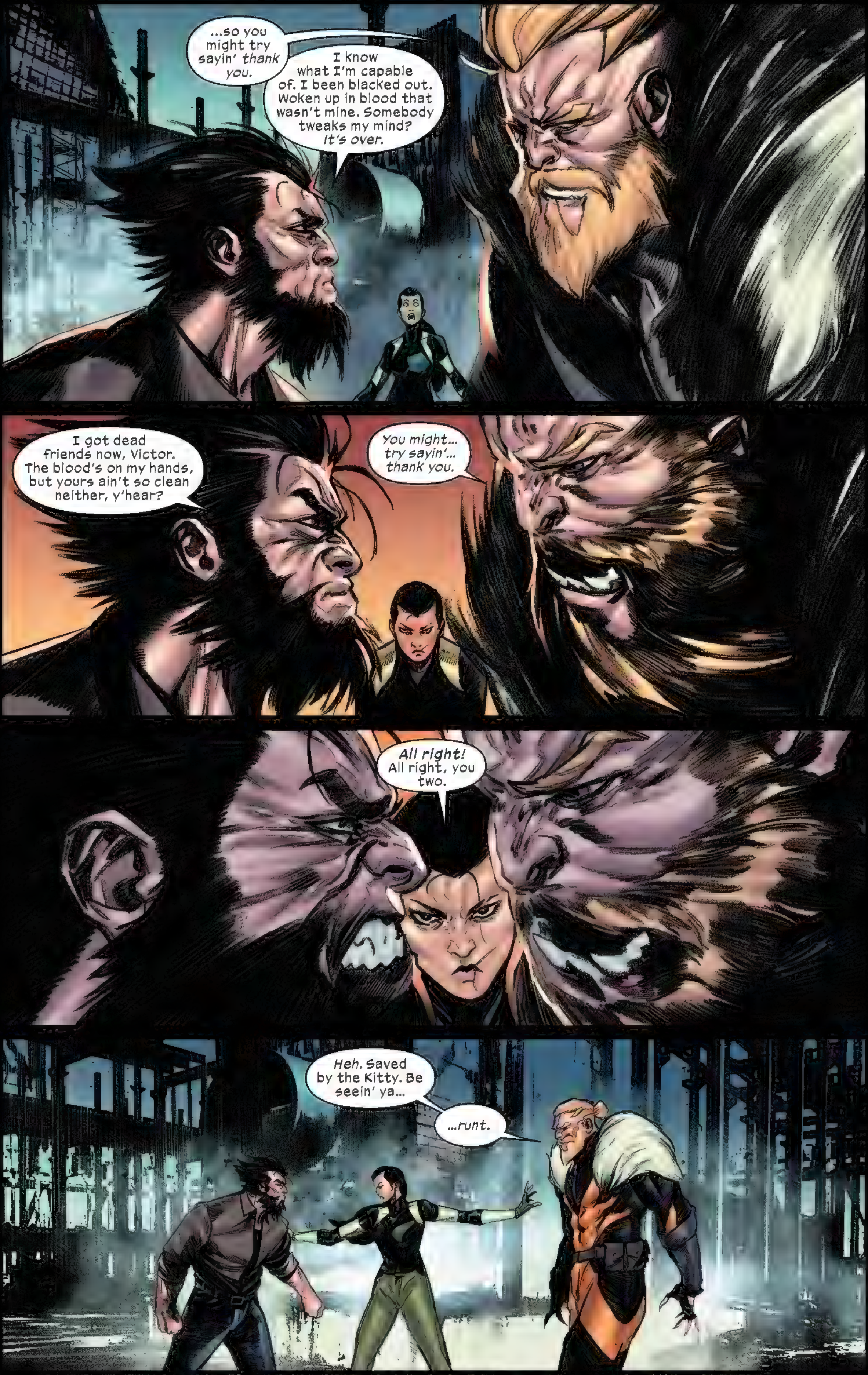

I've dodged and covered for too long already. The leaders are getting too curious. I know it. Ana...? Anything?
Nothing. Completely off the grid. Not a blip.
Damn it.
It seems impossible... how could the tethers--all of them--be severed?
I do not know what to tell you, Doctor. It's as if he has just vanished... disappeared from the face of the Earth.
Where are you, Winter Soldier?
Let me check one more--gaaaakkkk--
Ana, this is no time for games...
...when the leaders finally find out he's gone, I--
KUNK
Ana? Good lord, what--
"When the leaders finally find out..."

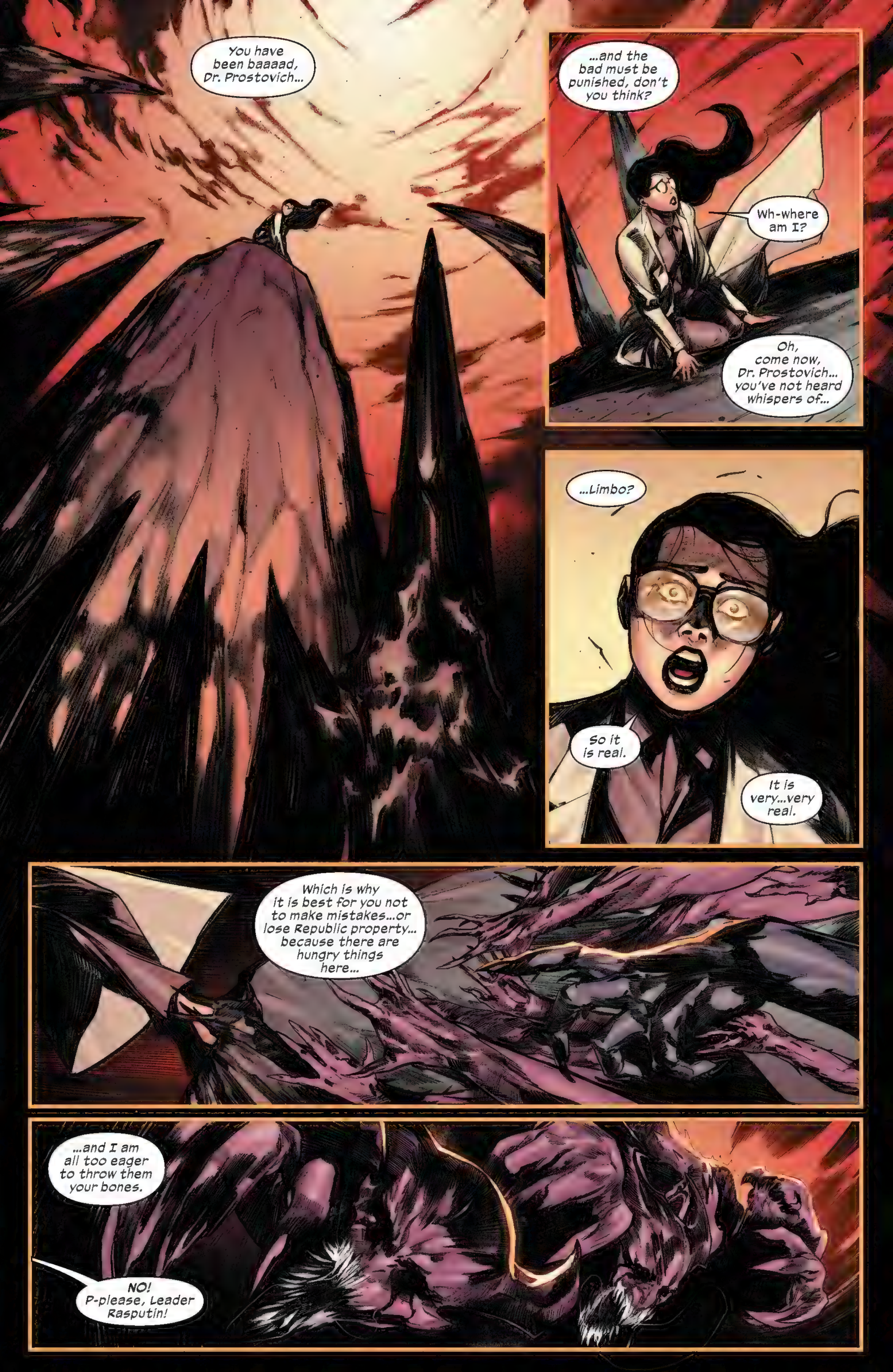

Well, Dr. Prostovich... it falls on me to report that the leaders have, indeed, *found* out.
Leader Rossovich... I assure you that this was through no fault of my own. Some external--
Save your pleas.
No--!
P-please--
Hnff--

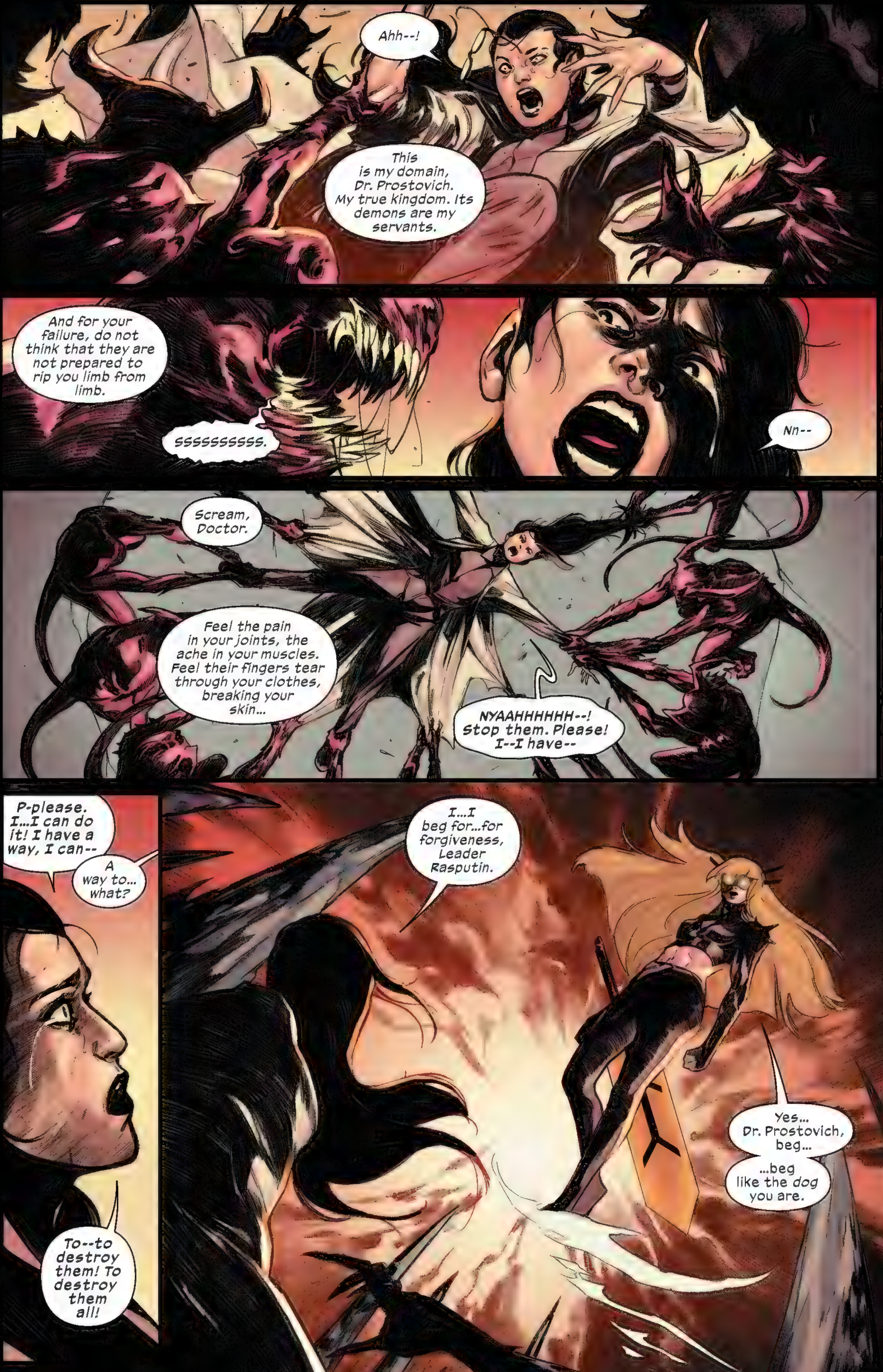

Here, Illyana. Look what the cat's dragged in...
Nn--
Ah, thank you, Arkady.
We have an appointment to keep with the *good doctor*...
...but we will first make a stop...
...in *Limbo.*
N-NO! NOOOOOOOOO--!

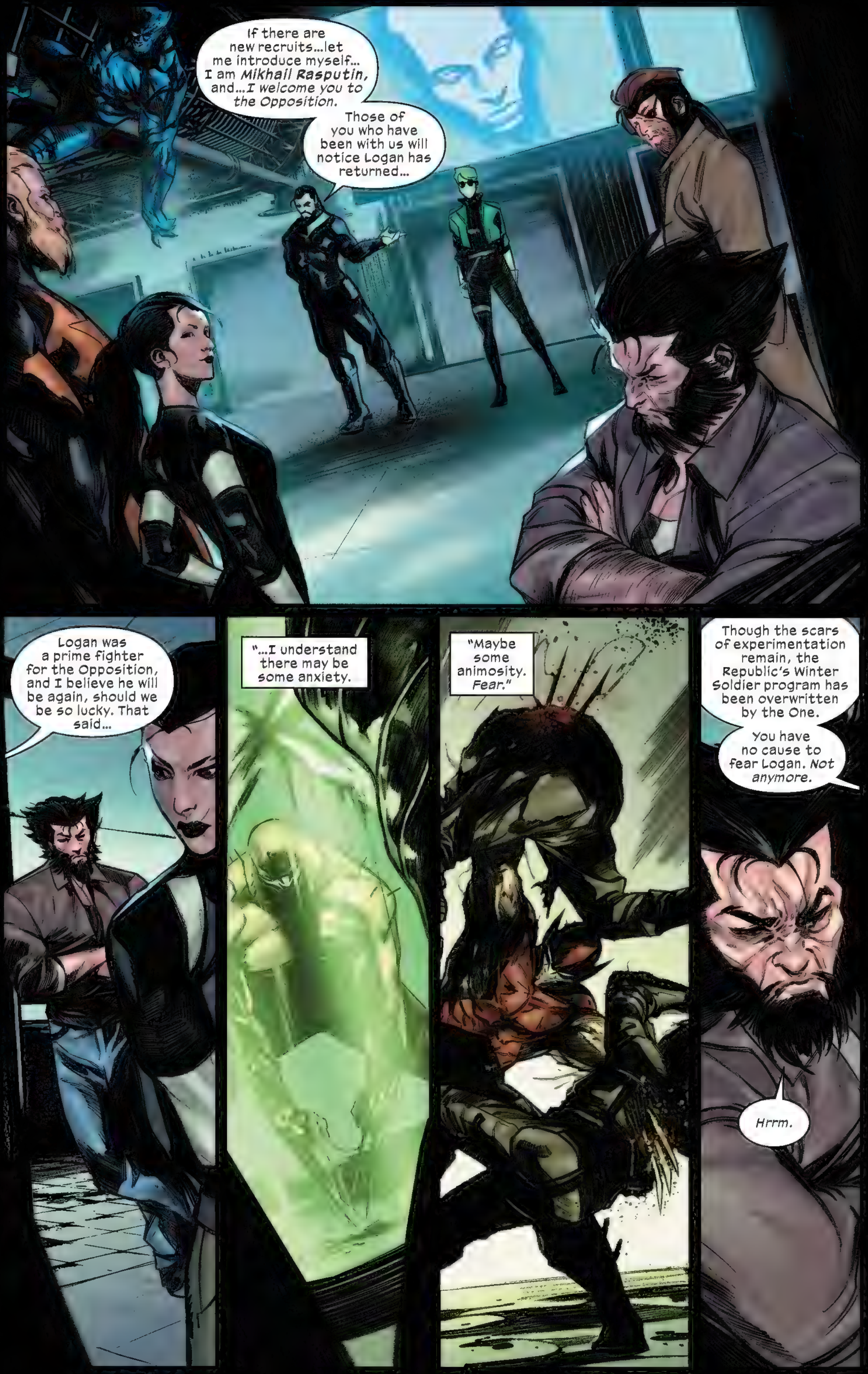

Surprised this base ain't been attacked... God knows *Chernobyl* is a big enough target.
Well, it'd help if they could see us, but they can't. They don't even know we're here. All because of the "One"--David Haller.
He's completely scrubbed this location from all their databases. It's just an empty spot now on all their satellites.
I know that feelin'. Well, I--
Hey, runt.
Nice to see you got yourself your brain back. *Heh. What little of it there was...*
Grrrr...
Oof...seems you got the attitude back too, *huh?*
You got a lotta [redacted] *nerve, bub...*

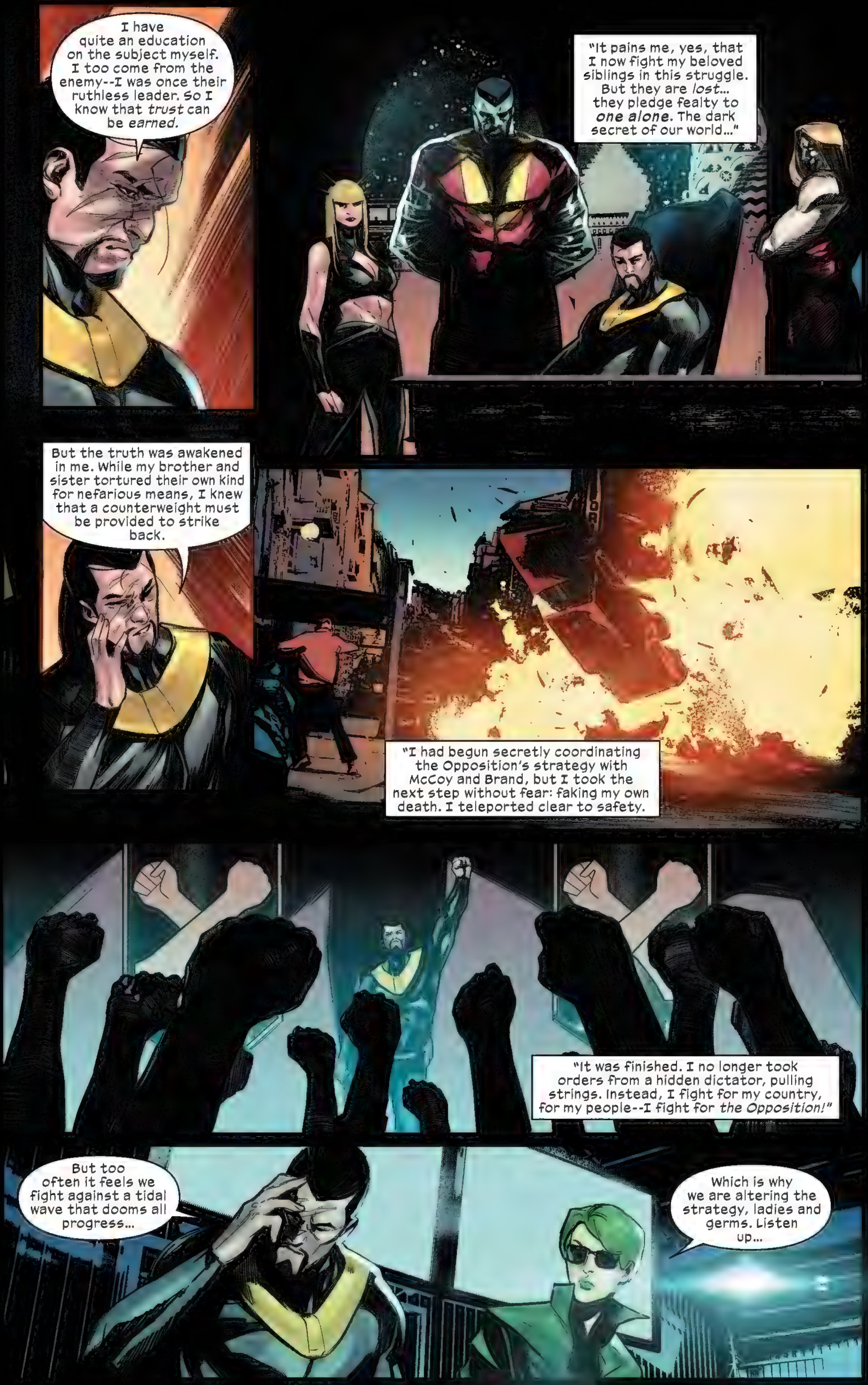

I trusted you.
The hell're you on about?!
Logan, what're you doing? We're all on the same side here...
Yeah. Unless you're not as *fixed* as they say...
Hrrm.
I asked you for a favor, Victor. Before. A *big* favor. And you didn't hold up your end 'a the deal.
Oh. That. Yeah, you're right.
What the hell's going on?!
Ahh... This guy wanted me to kill 'im. I didn't. Now he's mad about it.
What a load of [redacted]...
I asked you to take care 'a me if they ever caught me. We know what they do to people's minds. We seen it with Yuri, Jono-- *I can go on.*
Yeah, well, it's not like I had a chance to do much about it until you showed up in my bar.
When you did, *sue me,* I thought I could try to *save ya.*
And last I checked, *I did just* that...

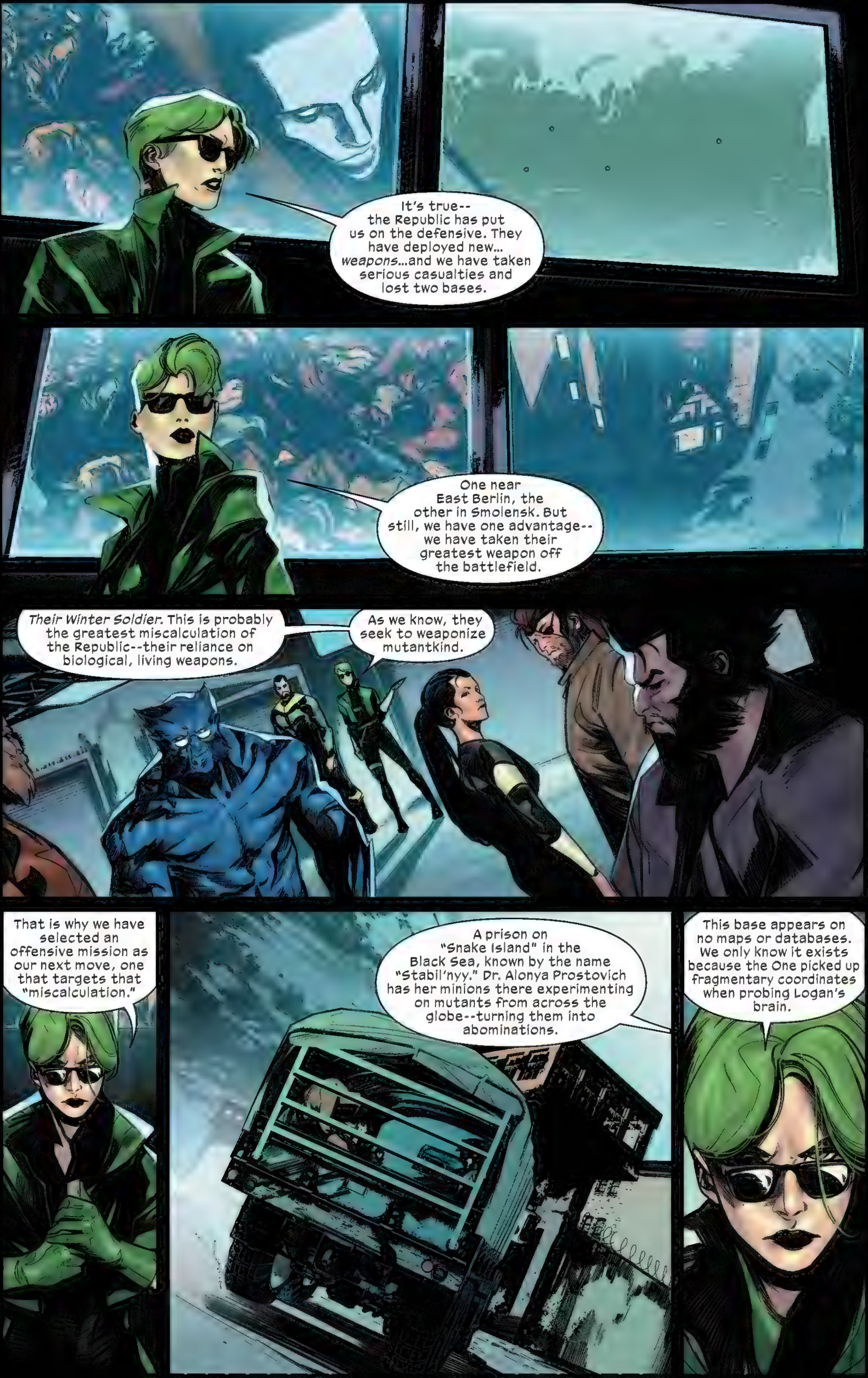

...so you might try sayin' *thank you.*
I know what I'm capable of. I been blacked out. Woken up in blood that wasn't mine. Somebody tweaks my mind? *It's over.*
I got dead friends now, Victor. The blood's on my hands, but yours ain't so clean neither, y'hear?
You might... try sayin'... thank you.
All right! All right, you two.
Heh. Saved by the Kitty. Be seein' ya...
...runt.

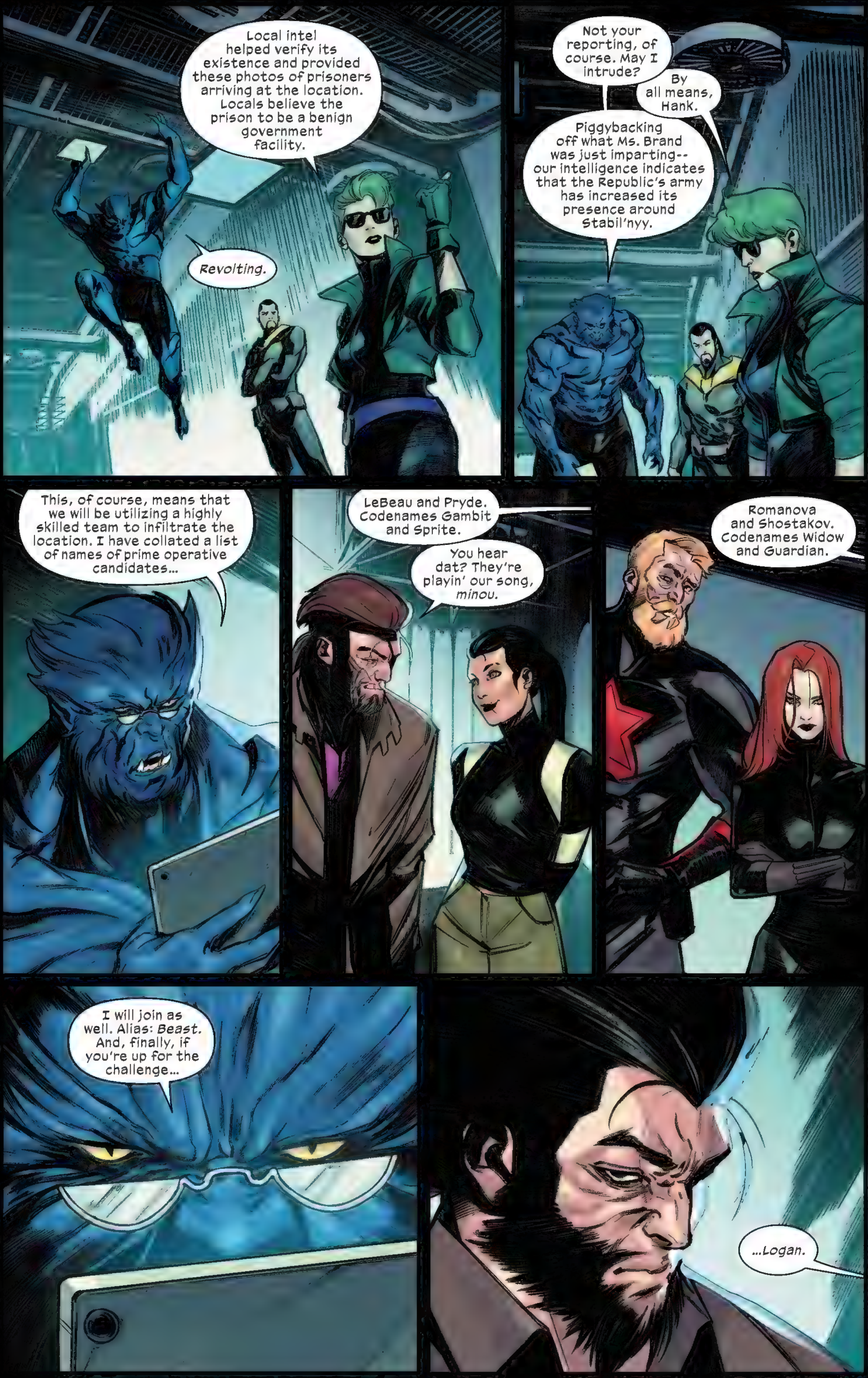

You have been baaaad, Dr. Prostovich...
...and the bad must be punished, don't you think?
Wh-where am I?
Oh, come now, Dr. Prostovich... you've not heard whispers of...
...Limbo?
So it is real.
It is very...very real.
Which is why it is best for you not to make mistakes...or lose Republic property... because there are hungry things here...
...and I am all too eager to throw them your bones.
NO! P-please, Leader Rasputin!

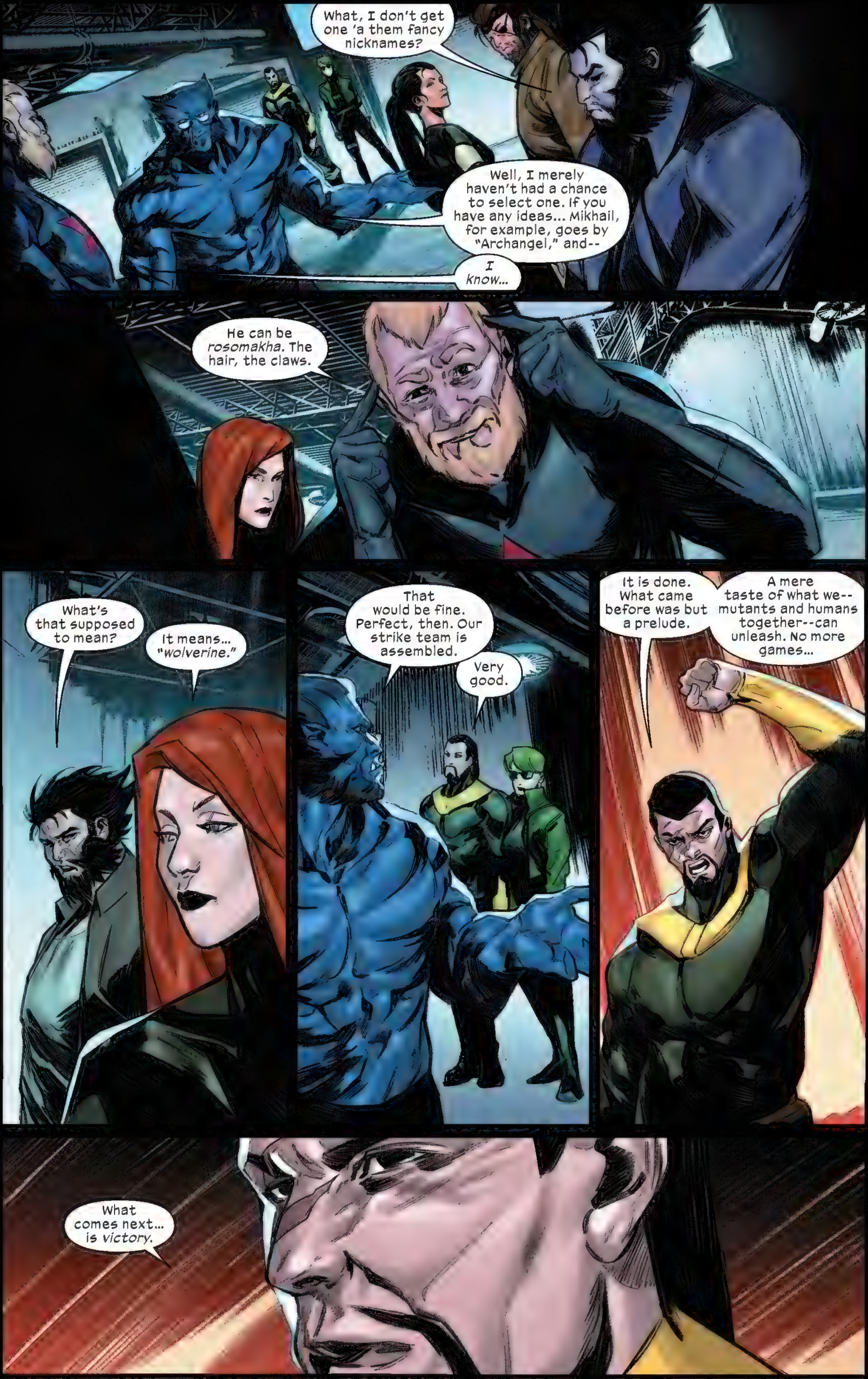

Ahh--!
This is my domain, Dr. Prostovich. My true kingdom. Its demons are my servants.
And for your failure, do not think that they are not prepared to rip you limb from limb.
SSSSSSSSS.
Nn--
Scream, Doctor.
Feel the pain in your joints, the ache in your muscles. Feel their fingers tear through your clothes, breaking your skin...
NYAAHHHHHH--! Stop them. Please! I--I have--
P-please. I...I can do it! I have a way, I can--
A way to... what?
To--to destroy them! To destroy them all!
I...I beg for...for forgiveness, Leader Rasputin.
Yes... Dr. Prostovich, beg...
...beg like the dog you are.

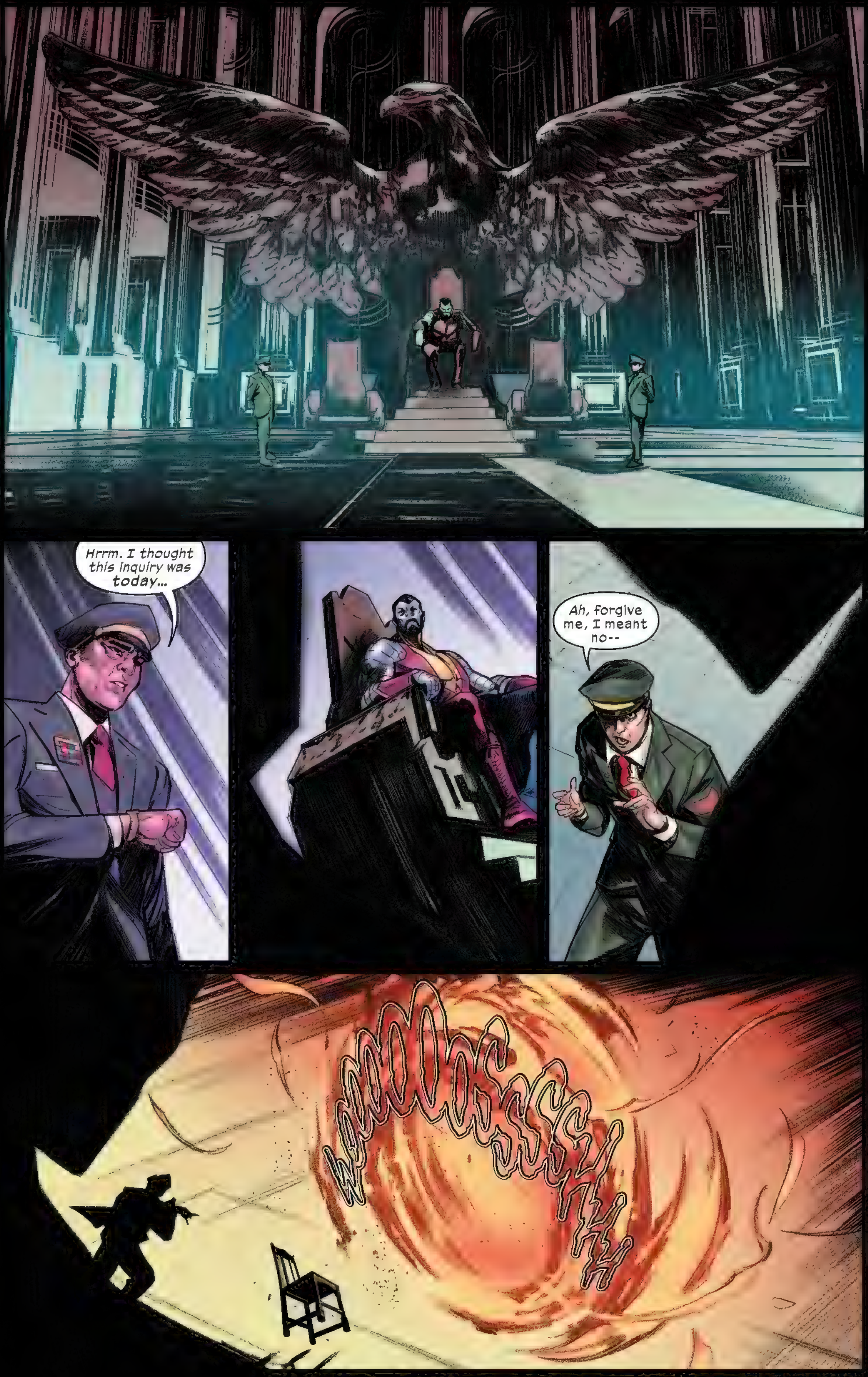

If there are new recruits...let me introduce myself... I am *Mikhail Rasputin,* and...*I welcome you to the Opposition.*
Those of you who have been with us will notice Logan has returned...
Logan was a prime fighter for the Opposition, and I believe he will be again, should we be so lucky. That said...
"...I understand there may be some anxiety.
"Maybe some animosity. *Fear.*"
Though the scars of experimentation remain, the Republic's Winter Soldier program has been overwritten by the One.
You have no cause to fear Logan. *Not anymore.*
Hrrm.

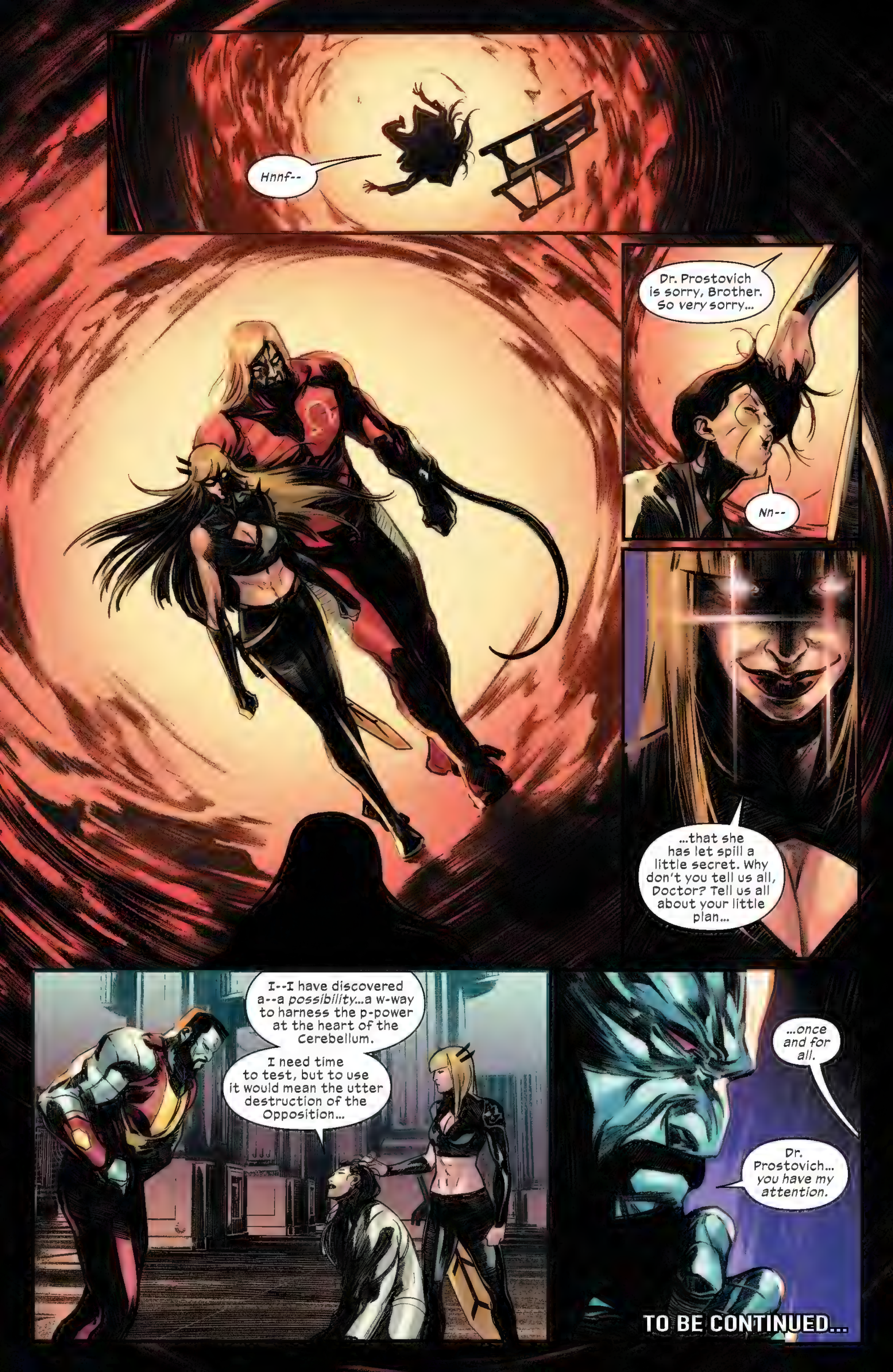

I have quite an education on the subject myself. I too come from the enemy--I was once their ruthless leader. So I know that *trust* can be *earned.*
"It pains me, yes, that I now fight my beloved siblings in this struggle. But they are *lost*... they pledge fealty to *one alone*. The dark secret of our world..."
But the truth was awakened in me. While my brother and sister tortured their own kind for nefarious means, I knew that a counterweight must be provided to strike back.
"I had begun secretly coordinating the Opposition's strategy with McCoy and Brand, but I took the next step without fear: faking my own death. I teleported clear to safety.
"It was finished. I no longer took orders from a hidden dictator, pulling strings. Instead, I fight for my country, for my people--I fight for *the Opposition!*"
But too often it feels we fight against a tidal wave that dooms all progress...
Which is why we are altering the strategy, ladies and germs. Listen up...

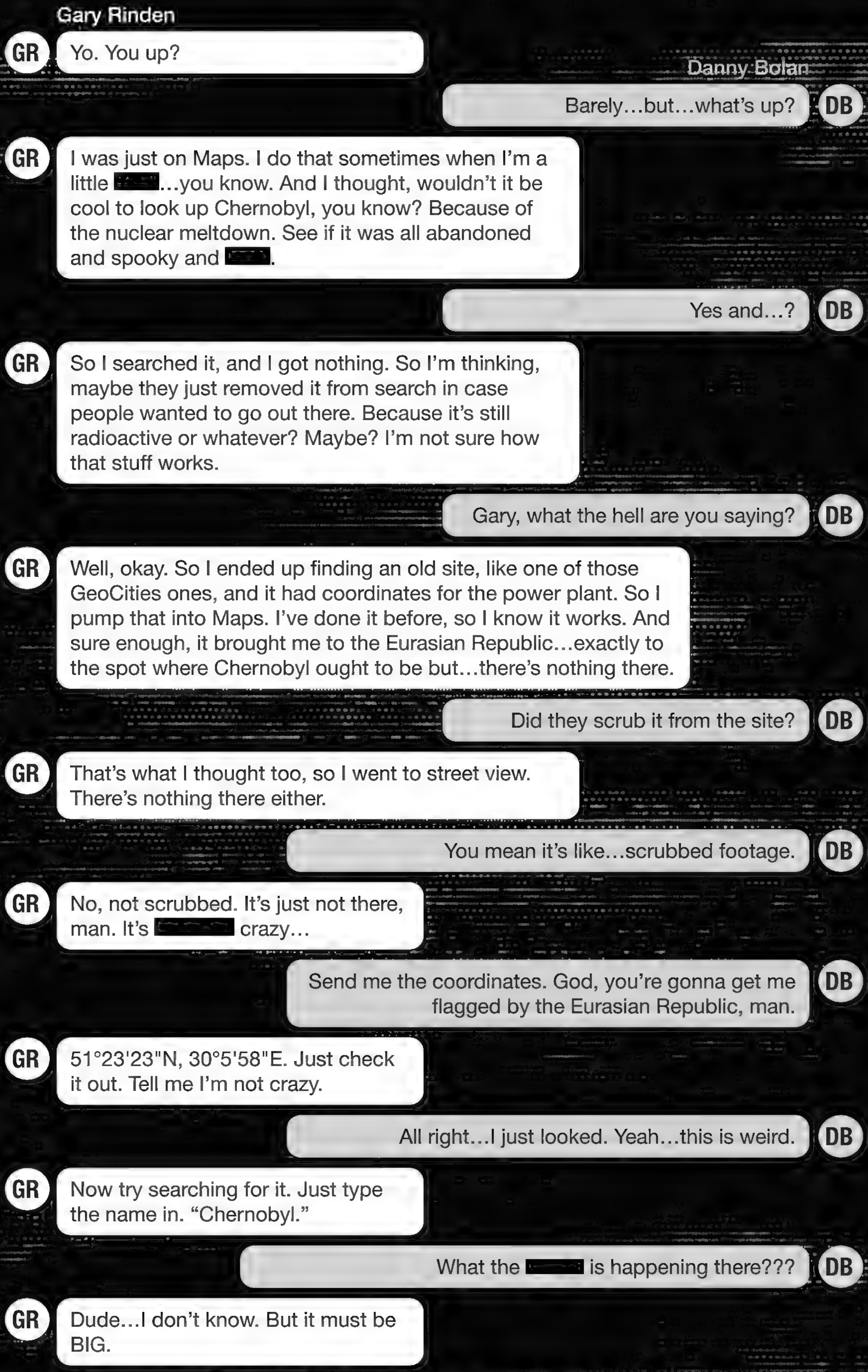

It's true--the Republic has put us on the defensive. They have deployed new... *weapons*...and we have taken serious casualties and lost two bases.
One near East Berlin, the other in Smolensk. But still, we have one advantage--we have taken their greatest weapon off the battlefield.
Their Winter Soldier. This is probably the greatest miscalculation of the Republic--their reliance on biological, living weapons.
As we know, they seek to weaponize mutantkind.
That is why we have selected an offensive mission as our next move, one that targets that "miscalculation."
A prison on "Snake Island" in the Black Sea, known by the name "Stabil'nyy." Dr. Alonya Prostovich has her minions there experimenting on mutants from across the globe--turning them into abominations.
This base appears on no maps or databases. We only know it exists because the One picked up fragmentary coordinates when probing Logan's brain.


Local intel helped verify its existence and provided these photos of prisoners arriving at the location. Locals believe the prison to be a benign government facility.
Revolting.
Not your reporting, of course. May I intrude?
By all means, Hank.
Piggybacking off what Ms. Brand was just imparting--our intelligence indicates that the Republic's army has increased its presence around Stabil'nyy.
This, of course, means that we will be utilizing a highly skilled team to infiltrate the location. I have collated a list of names of prime operative candidates...
LeBeau and Pryde. Codenames Gambit and Sprite.
You hear dat? They're playin' our song, *minou.*
Romanova and Shostakov. Codenames Widow and Guardian.
I will join as well. Alias: *Beast.* And, finally, if you're up for the challenge...
...Logan.]


What, I don't get one 'a them fancy nicknames?
Well, I merely haven't had a chance to select one. If you have any ideas... Mikhail, for example, goes by "Archangel," and--
I know...
He can be *rosomakha*. The hair, the claws.
What's that supposed to mean?
It means... "*wolverine.*"
That would be fine. Perfect, then. Our strike team is assembled.
Very good.
It is done. What came before was but a prelude.
A mere taste of what we--mutants and humans together--can unleash. No more games...
What comes next... is *victory.*


Hrrm. I thought this inquiry was today...
Ah, forgive me, I meant no--
WOOOOOSSSSHHH


Hnnf--
Dr. Prostovich is sorry, Brother. So *very* sorry...
Nn--
...that she has let spill a little secret. Why don't you tell us all, Doctor? Tell us all about your little plan...
I--I have discovered a--a *possibility*...a w-way to harness the p-power at the heart of the Cerebellum.
I need time to test, but to use it would mean the utter destruction of the Opposition...
...once and for all.
Dr. Prostovich... *you have my attention.*
TO BE CONTINUED...



Gary Rinden

GR Yo. You up?

Danny Bolan

DB Barely…but…what's up?

GR I was just on Maps. I do that sometimes when I'm a little [redacted]…you know. And I thought, wouldn't it be cool to look up Chernobyl, you know? Because of the nuclear meltdown. See if it was all abandoned and spooky and [redacted].

DB Yes and…?

GR So I searched it, and I got nothing. So I'm thinking, maybe they just removed it from search in case people wanted to go out there. Because it's still radioactive or whatever? Maybe? I'm not sure how that stuff works.

DB Gary, what the hell are you saying?

GR Well, okay. So I ended up finding an old site, like one of those GeoCities ones, and it had coordinates for the power plant. So I pump that into Maps. I've done it before, so I know it works. And sure enough, it brought me to the Eurasian Republic…exactly to the spot where Chernobyl ought to be but…there's nothing there.

DB Did they scrub it from the site?

GR That's what I thought too, so I went to street view. There's nothing there either.

DB You mean it's like…scrubbed footage.

GR No, not scrubbed. It's just not there, man. It's [redacted] crazy…

DB Send me the coordinates. God, you're gonna get me flagged by the Eurasian Republic, man.

GR 51°23'23"N, 30°5'58"E. Just check it out. Tell me I'm not crazy.

DB All right…I just looked. Yeah…this is weird.

GR Now try searching for it. Just type the name in. "Chernobyl."

DB What the [redacted] is happening there???

GR Dude…I don't know. But it must be BIG.

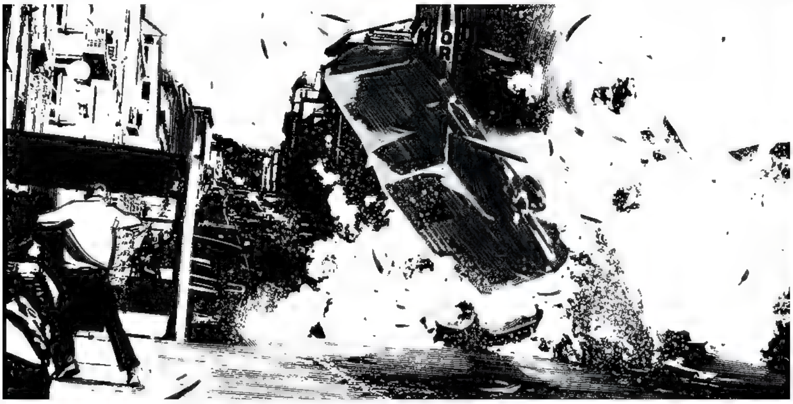
Home Insurance
STACK AND SAVE

BREAKING NEWS **EXCLUSIVE**

Former E.R. operative found dead, advocated for Rasputin conspiracy

Published June 30, 2025, 5:00 p.m. ET

❝ 1.2K Comments



Home Insurance
STACK AND SAVE

Dimitri Peshkov, a former operative for the secretive Eurasian Republic Security Force, has been found dead. He had recently gained notoriety when he took to social media to promote his belief that deceased E.R. leader Mikhail Rasputin survived his fatal car bombing and is currently running an opposition force inside of the Republic. Peshkov's posts have been removed dozens of times over claims of factual accuracy. Still, Peshkov maintained that he had evidence that Rasputin still lives, despite providing little to none whenever pressed. Peshkov was found dead yesterday morning, killed by an apparent self-inflicted gunshot wound. His ex-wife asked that his family be allowed privacy in their time of mourning in a brief statement.

Peshkov was a decorated officer in the E.R.S.F. for seventeen years before being discharged last year following a negative psychological evaluation. Peshkov claims that this evaluation was "rigged" against him and that its findings were inaccurate and manufactured to make him look less than credible.

"I served my country for my entire adult life without question," Peshkov said in a now-deleted social media post. "But the minute I raised a question about the supposed death of Leader Mikhail Rasputin, I am deemed 'crazy' and stripped of my position. Does that sound like coincidence to you?"

In a now-infamous viral video, Peshkov provided security-camera footage of a man he claimed was Rasputin on a street corner in Kyiv three months after Rasputin's death. The footage has been examined by experts and was found to be inconclusive and possibly doctored. Still, Peshkov pushed his theory, right until the end. The night before he died, Peshkov posted a video saying that he was scared for his life. His family has deleted the video and has made clear their intent to never release it.

In her brief statement, Peshkov's ex-wife stated, "Dimitri was a brilliant man, but he became lost to us, to the world. The internet poisoned him with its lies."

The E.R.S.F. has not commented on the psychological evaluation, Peshkov's claims or his death. At the time of the writing of this article, Mikhail Rasputin is still officially deceased.

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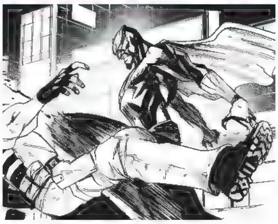
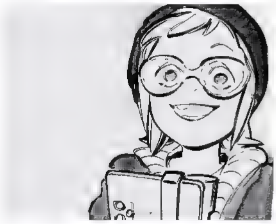
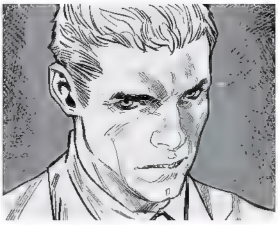


Masked caped fighter takes down assassin in Nigeria



8-Chome streamer claims new developments in Hi No Kuni "#MeatCase" incident



Harry Osborn, Oscorp heir and co-CEO, dead at 35

WRITER: **CHRIS CONDON**
ARTIST: **ALESSANDRO CAPPUCCIO**

COLOR ARTIST: **BRYAN VALENZA**
LETTERER: **VC's CORY PETIT**
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MARVEL
8
ULTIMATE
WOLVERINE
CONDON
CAPPUCCIO VALENZA

ON SALE IN **AUGUST**

ON SALE THIS MONTH

ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN #19

BY **JONATHAN HICKMAN**
& **MARCO CHECCHETTO**

ULTIMATE BLACK PANTHER #18

BY **BRYAN HILL** &
STEFANO CASELLI

ULTIMATE X-MEN #17

BY **PEACH MOMOKO**

ULTIMATES #14

BY **DENIZ CAMP**
& **JUAN FRIGERI**

ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN: INCURSION #2

BY **DENIZ CAMP**, **CODY ZIGLAR**
& **JONAS SCHARF**

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU! EMAIL US AT **ULTIMATEOFFICE@MARVEL.COM** AND MARK YOUR LETTERS **"OKAY TO PRINT"**!

20

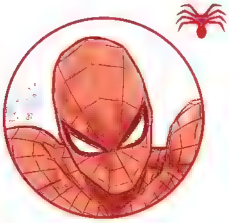
Twenty years ago, **THE MAKER** prevented a radioactive spider from biting a young **PETER PARKER**. He likewise prevented the creation of any other super heroes and formed a secret council to rule the world from the shadows.

Nineteen months ago, **TONY STARK** sent Peter that same radioactive spider along with a picotech suit. Since then, Peter has used the incredible powers granted by the spider's bite to fight crime alongside **GREEN GOBLIN**, A.K.A. **HARRY OSBORN**.

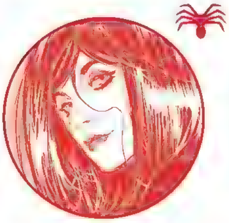
Peter's son, **RICHARD**, took on the picotech suit himself, but his situationship with **BLACK CAT** led him straight into **KINGPIN**'s trap! Fortunately, the suit's A.I. took over as **VENOM** and saved him. Now, with her family at stake, **MARY JANE WATSON-PARKER** wants to know everything, especially what Harry and **GWEN** (one of the five members of **MYSTERIO**) have been up to...

ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN

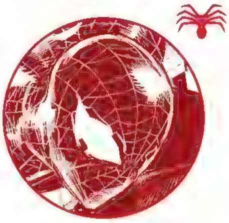
CAST:



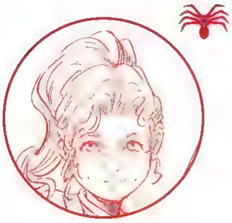
PETER PARKER
SPIDER-MAN



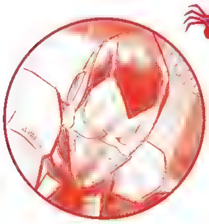
MJ WATSON-PARKER
PR GURU



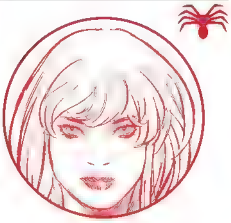
RICHARD PARKER
PETER AND MJ'S SON



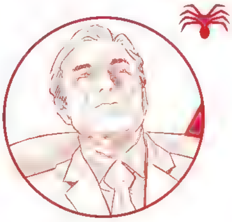
MAY PARKER
PETER AND MJ'S DAUGHTER



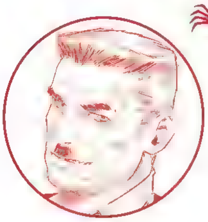
HARRY OSBORN
GREEN GOBLIN



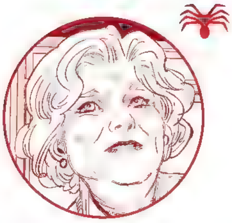
GWEN STACY
HARRY'S WIFE, MYSTERIO



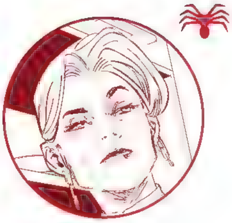
BEN PARKER
PETER'S UNCLE



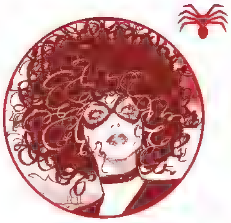
J. JONAH JAMESON
BEN'S BUSINESS PARTNER



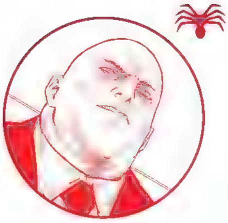
ANNA WATSON
MJ'S AUNT



MADELINE WATSON
MJ'S MOTHER

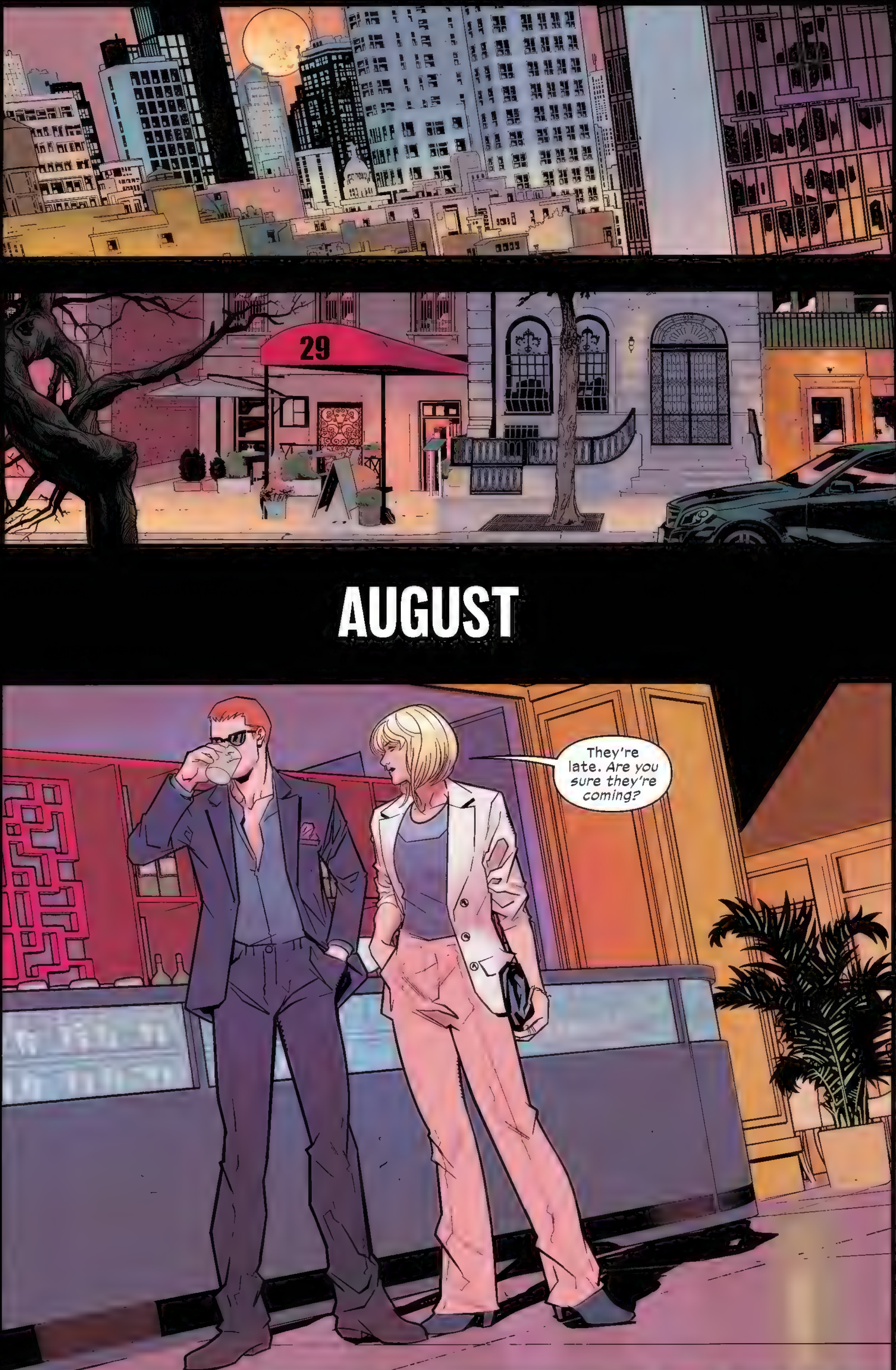


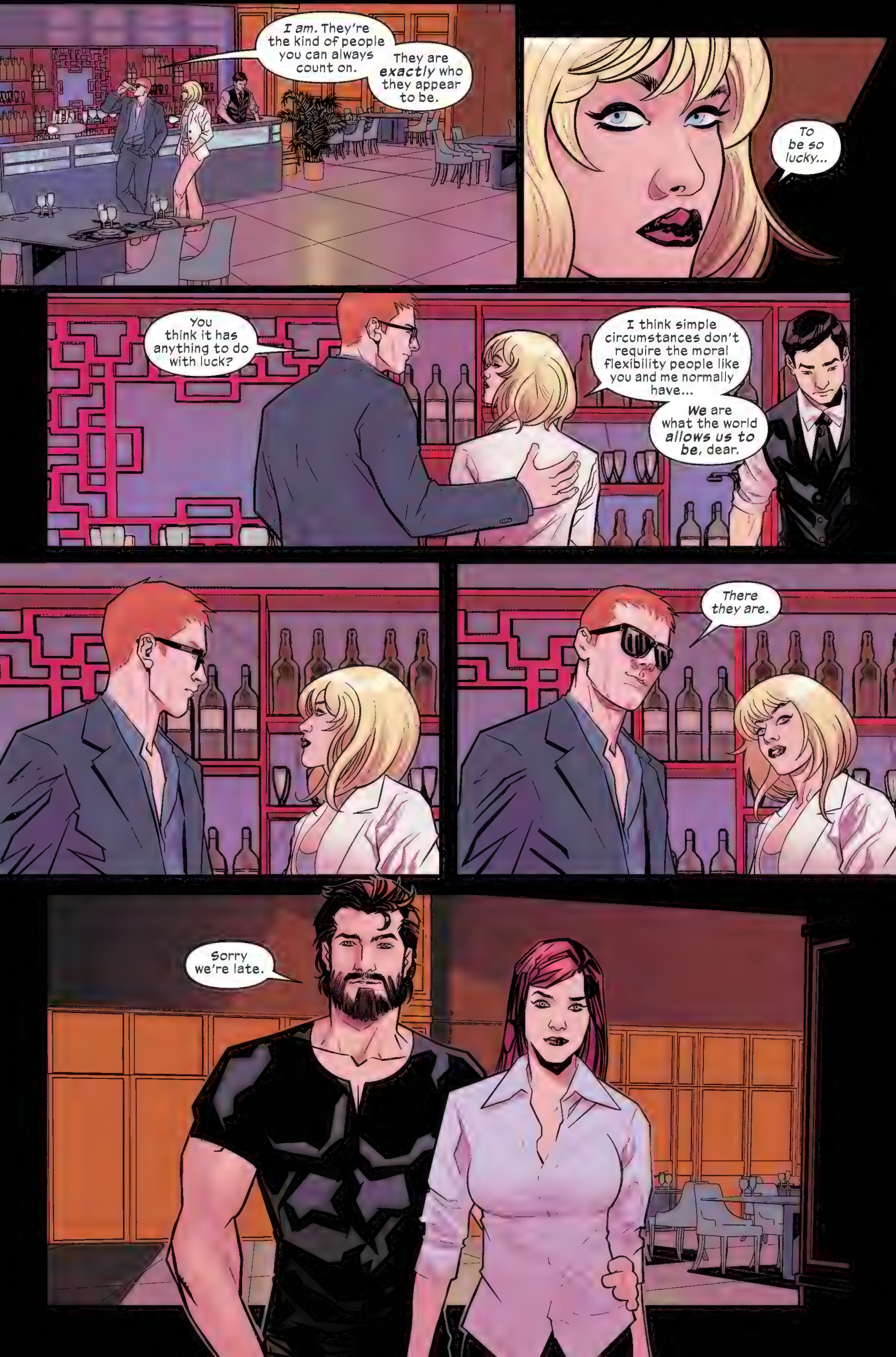
FELICIA HARDY
BLACK CAT

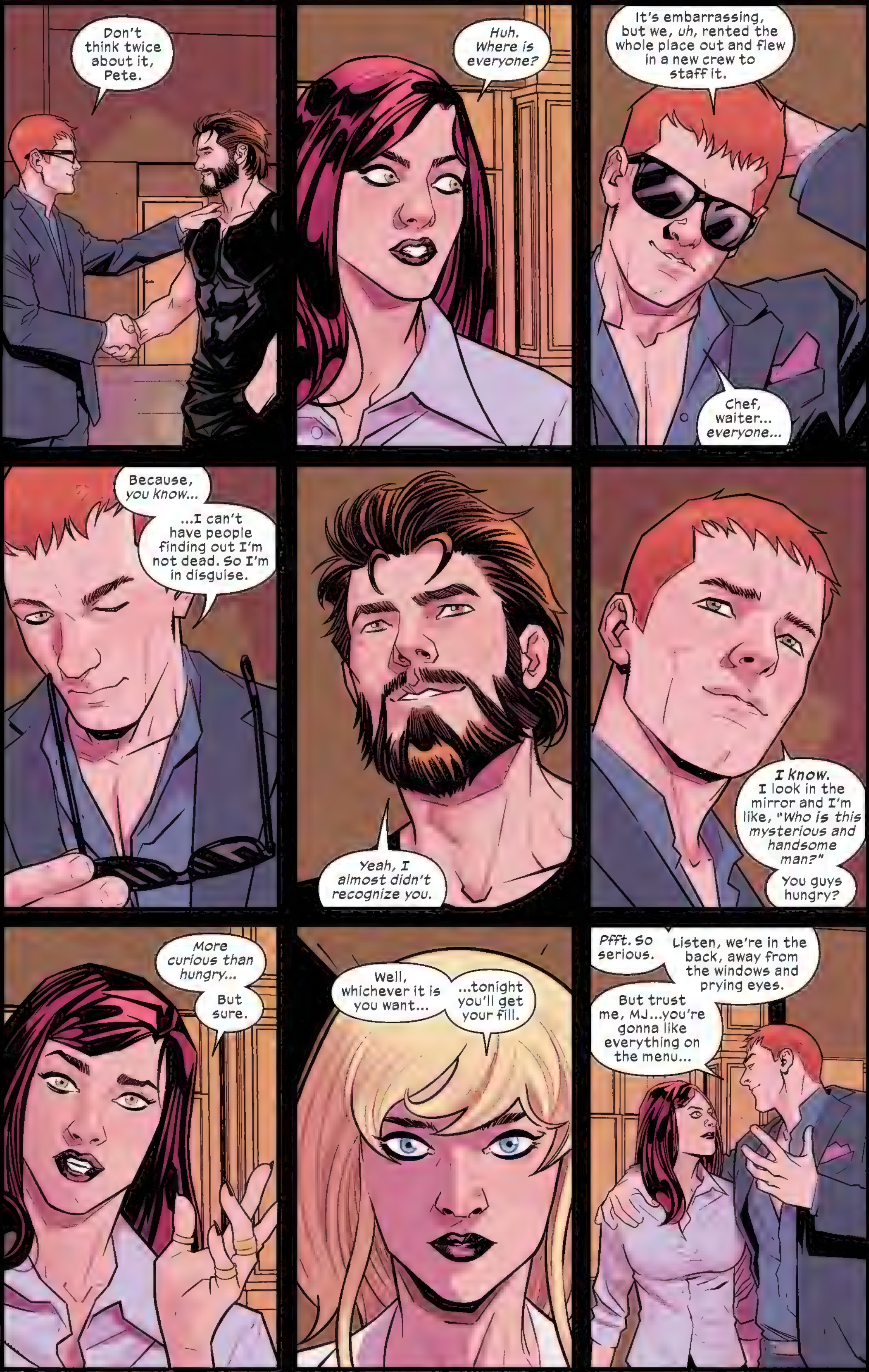


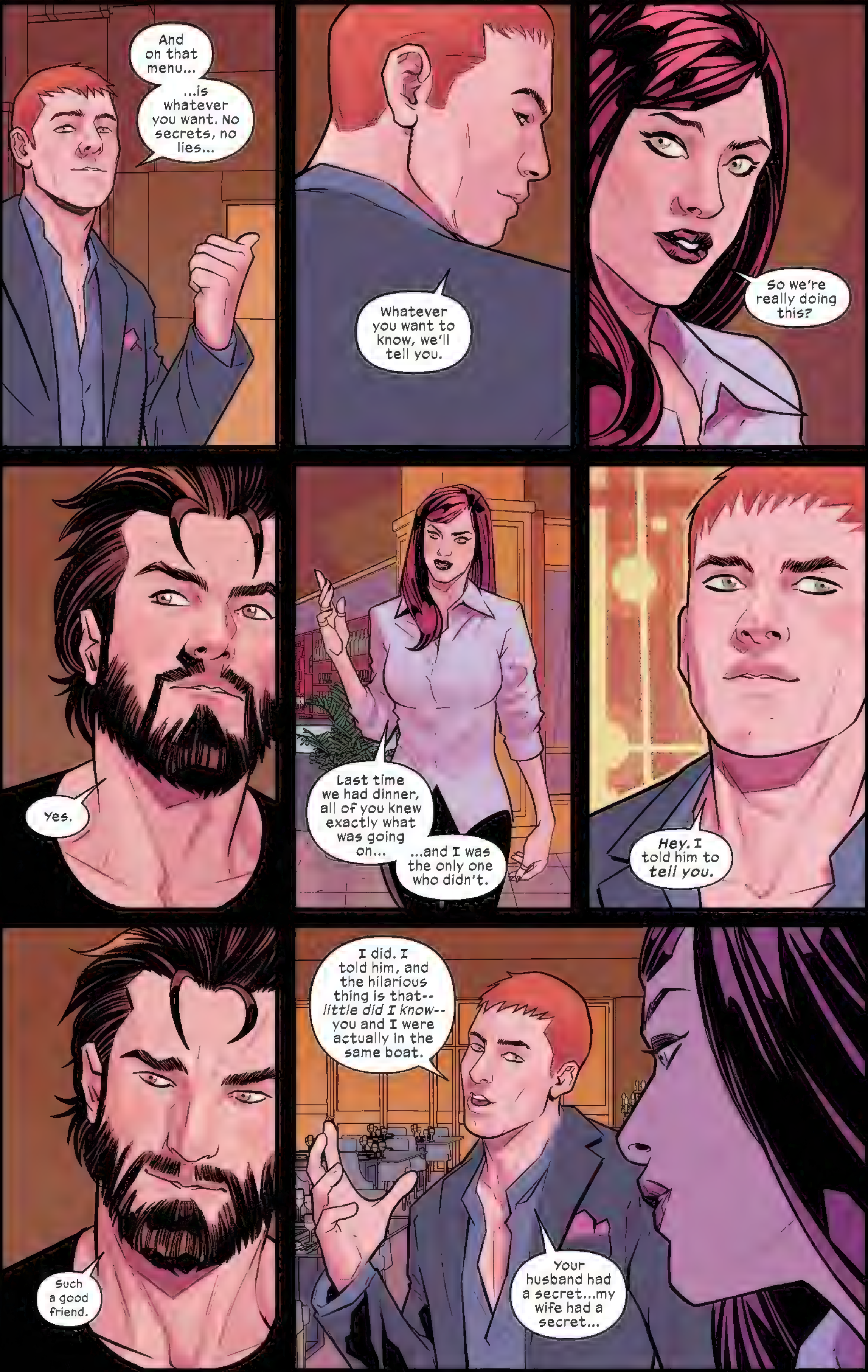
WILSON FISK
KINGPIN

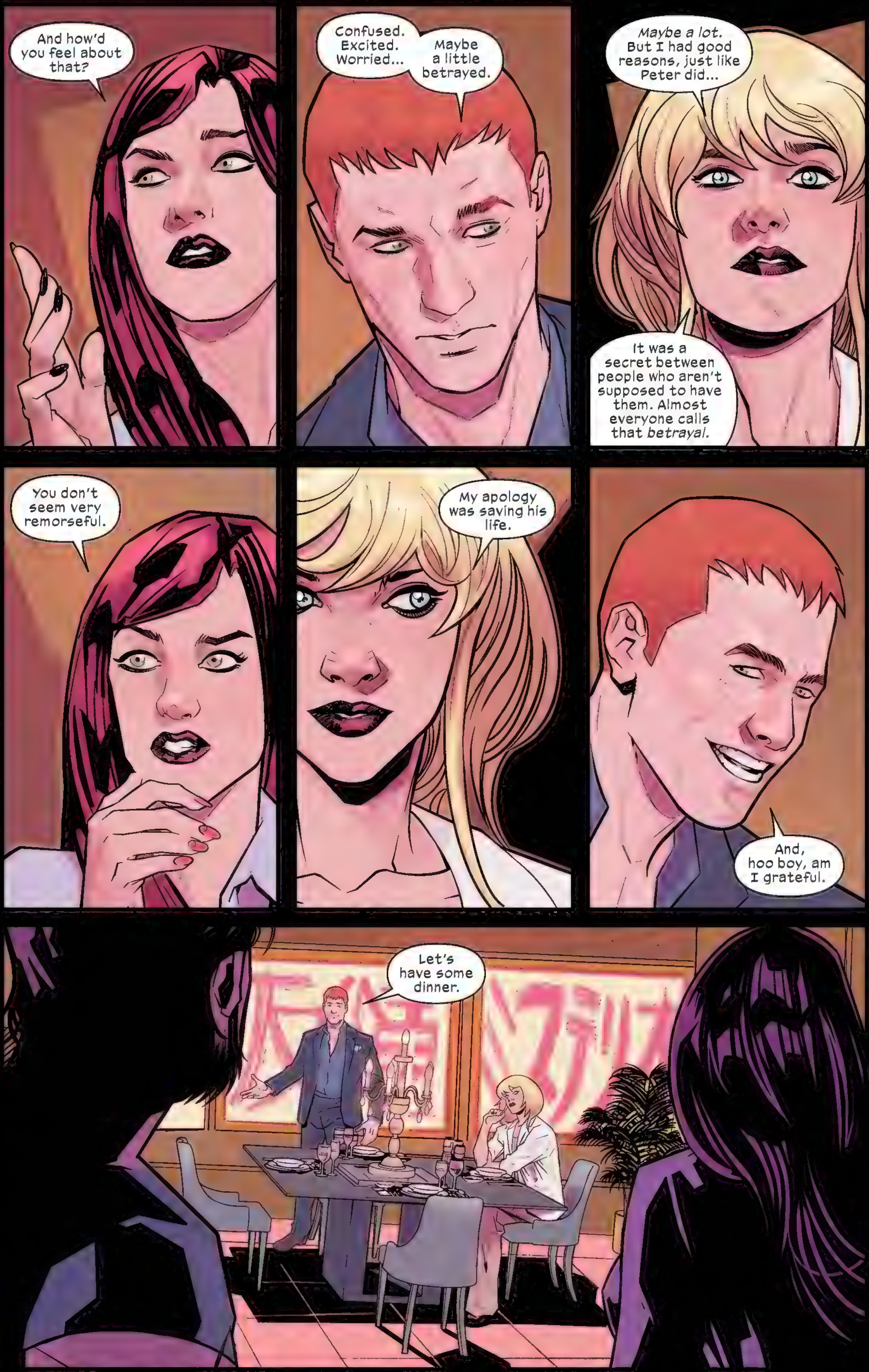
2025

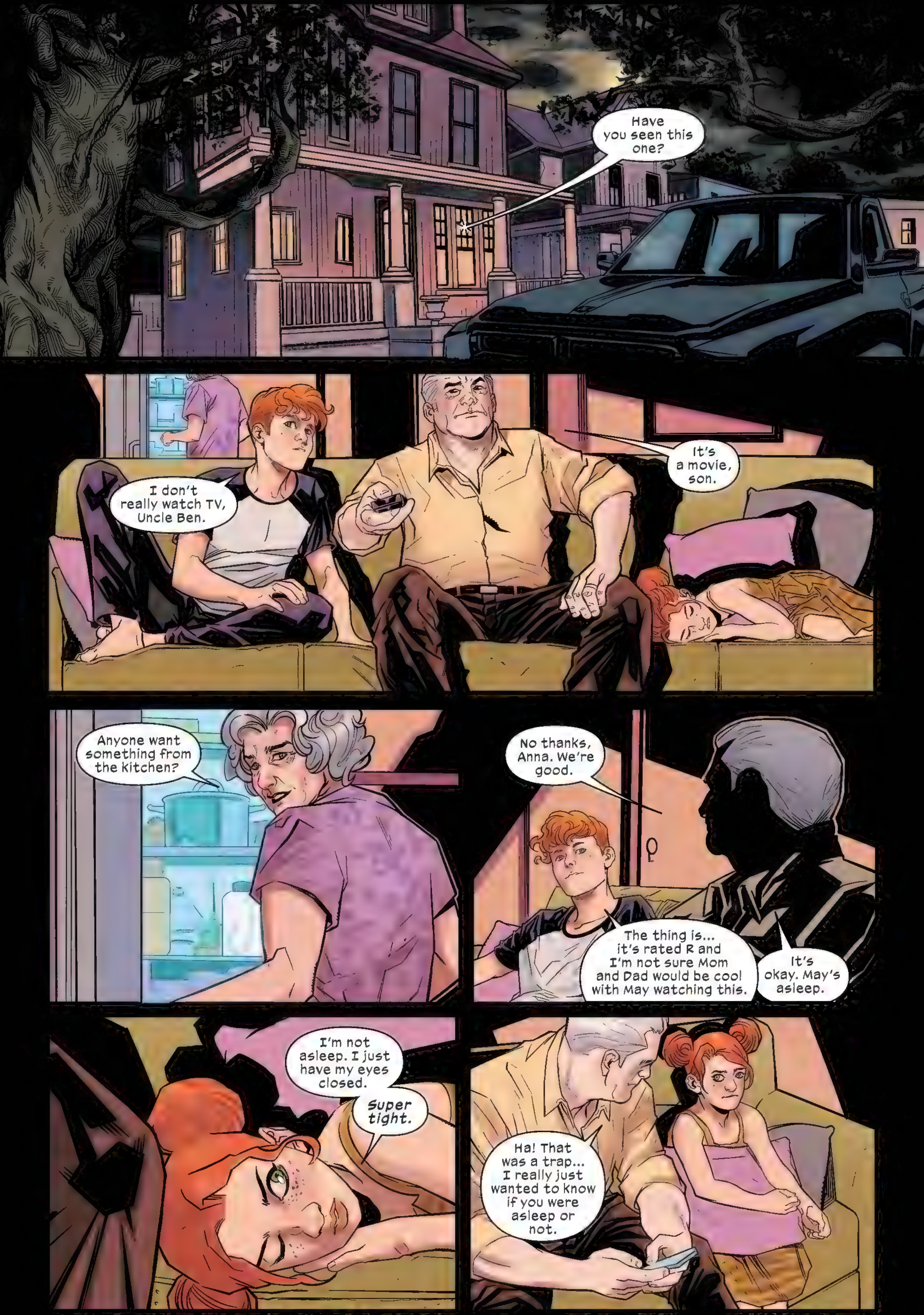

29
AUGUST
They're late. *Are you sure they're coming?*

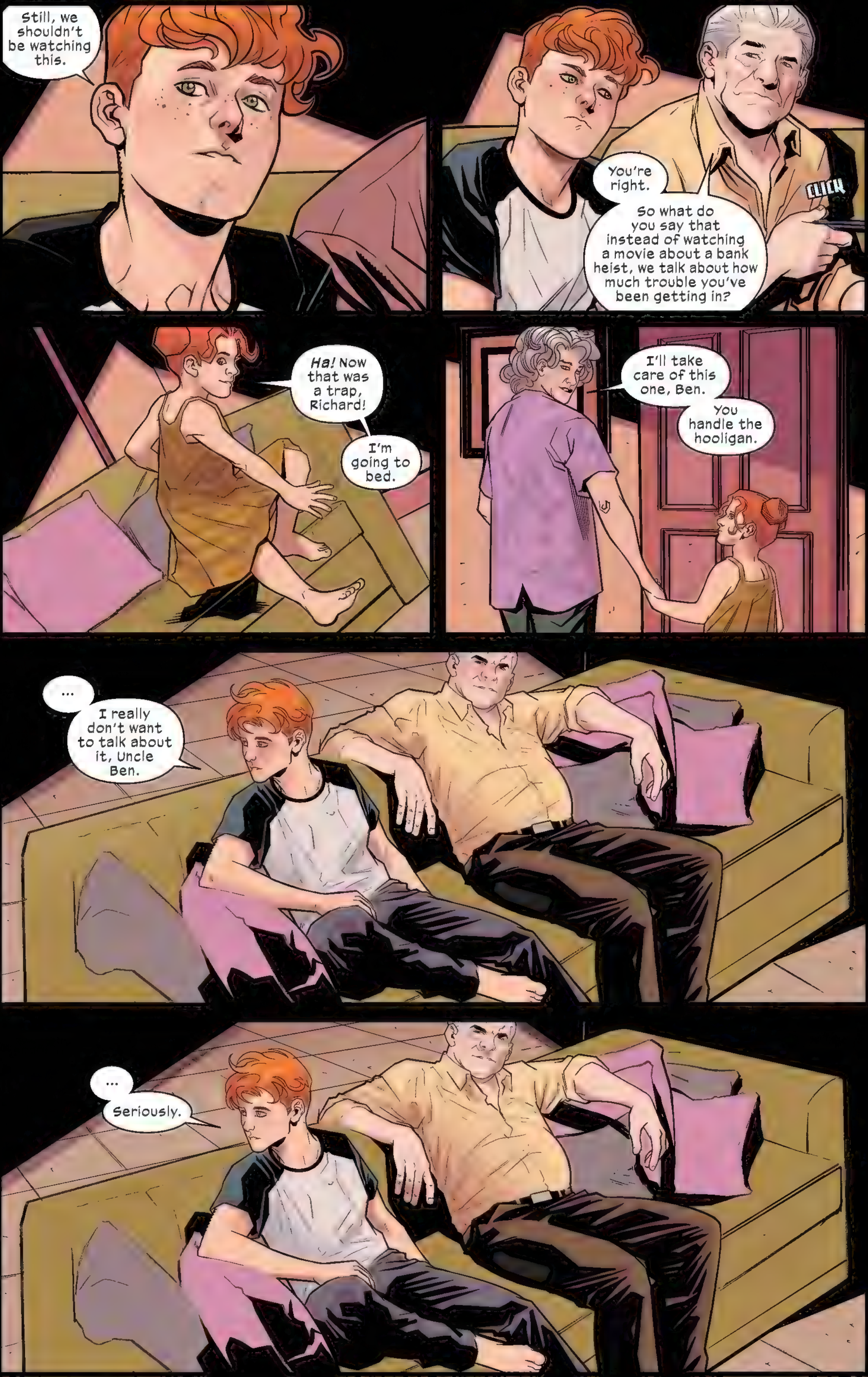

I am. They're the kind of people you can always count on.
They are *exactly* who they appear to be.
To be so lucky...
You think it has anything to do with luck?
I think simple circumstances don't require the moral flexibility people like you and me normally have...
We are what the world *allows us to be,* dear.
There they are.
Sorry we're late.

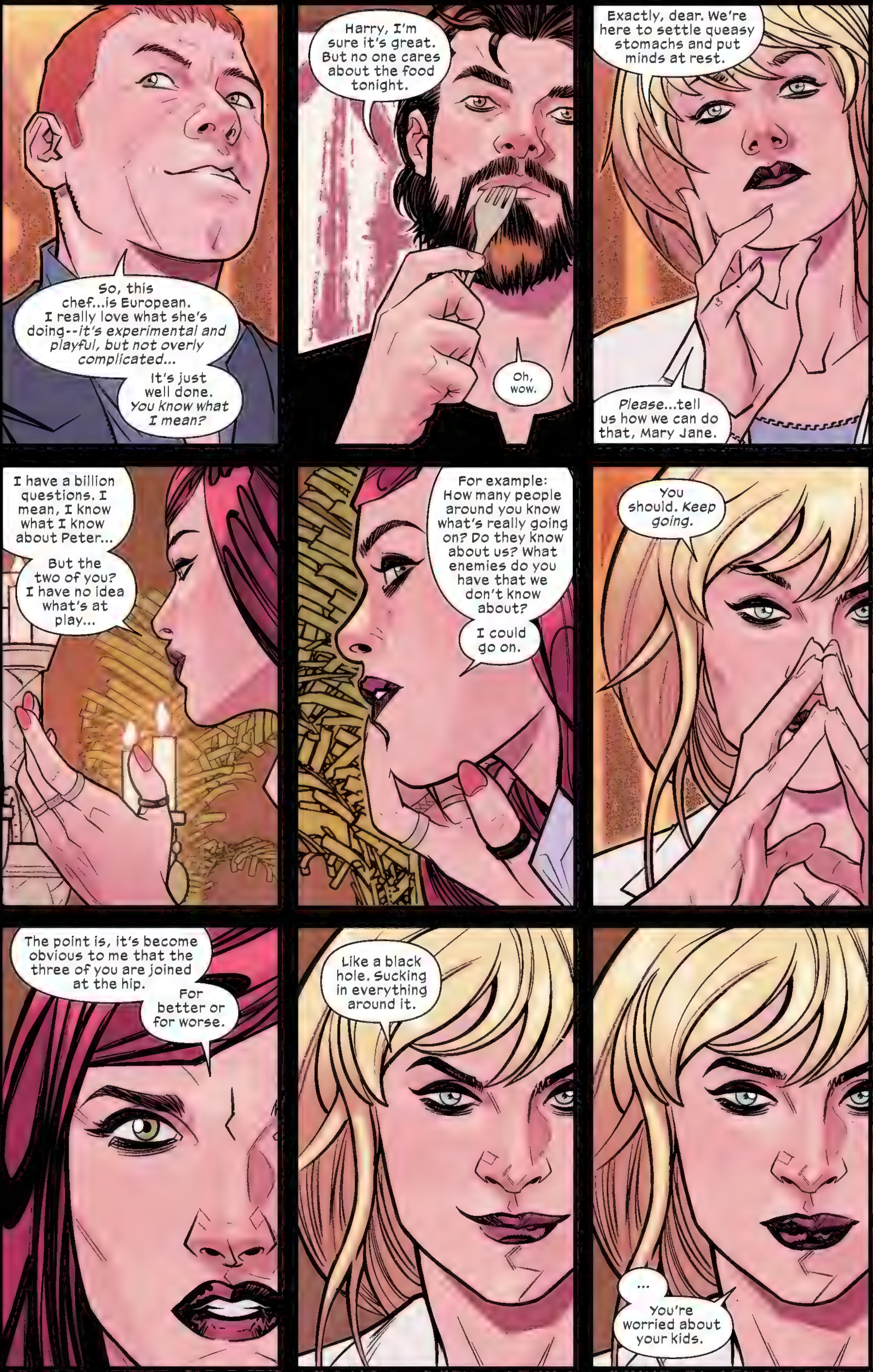

Don't think twice about it, Pete.
Huh. Where is everyone?
It's embarrassing, but we, *uh,* rented the whole place out and flew in a new crew to staff it.
Chef, waiter... everyone...
Because, *you know...*
...I can't have people finding out I'm not dead. So I'm in disguise.
Yeah, I almost didn't recognize you.
I know. I look in the mirror and I'm like, "*Who* **is** *this mysterious and handsome man?*"
You guys hungry?
More curious than hungry...
But sure.
Well, whichever it is you want...
...tonight you'll get your fill.
Pfft. So serious.
Listen, we're in the back, away from the windows and prying eyes.
But trust me, MJ...you're gonna like everything on the menu...

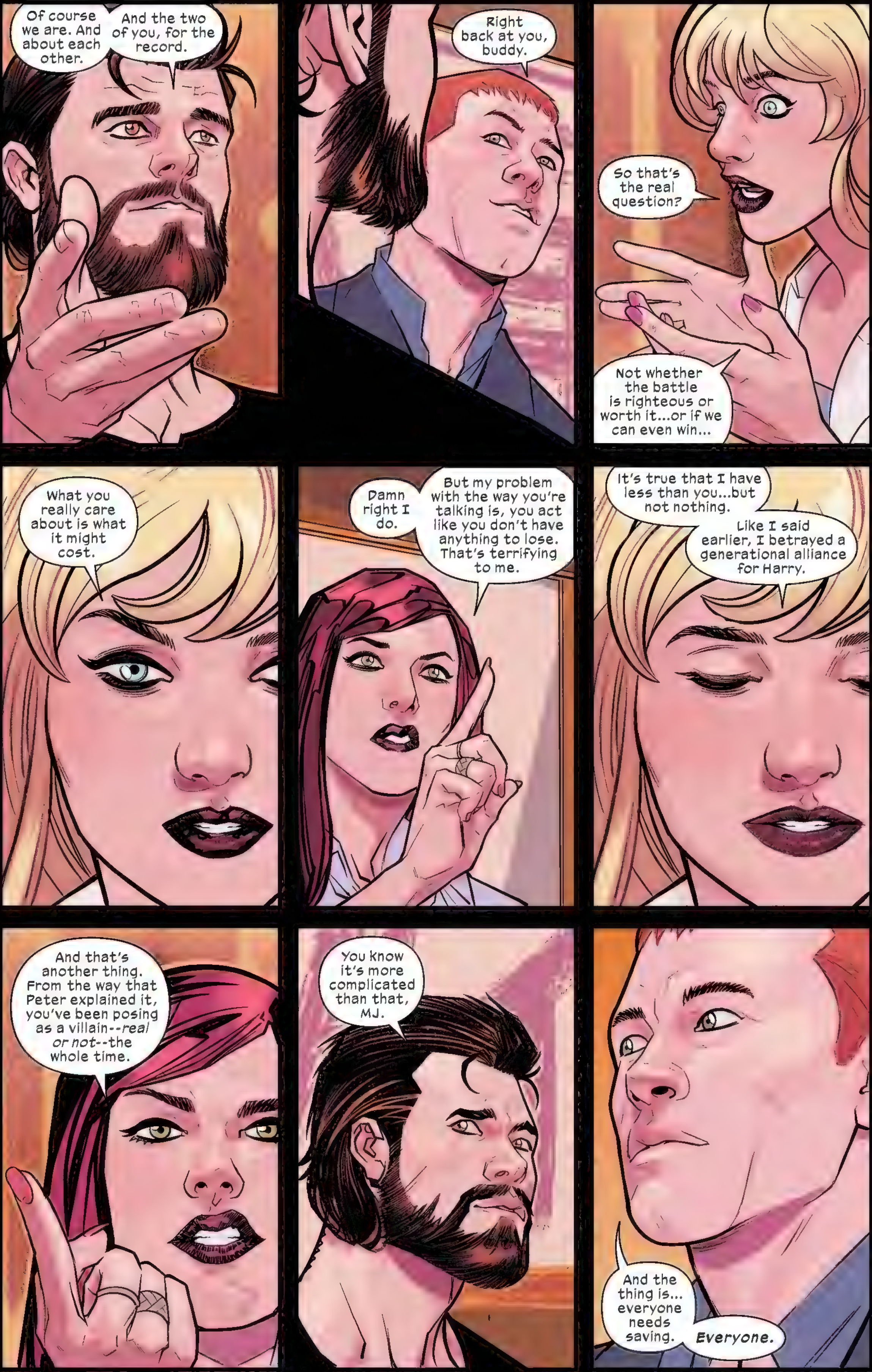

And on that menu...
...is whatever you want. No secrets, no lies...
Whatever you want to know, we'll tell you.
So we're really doing this?
Yes.
Last time we had dinner, all of you knew exactly what was going on...
...and I was the only one who didn't.
Hey. I told him to *tell you.*
Such a good friend.
I did. I told him, and the hilarious thing is that-- *little did I know*-- you and I were actually in the same boat.
Your husband had a secret...my wife had a secret...

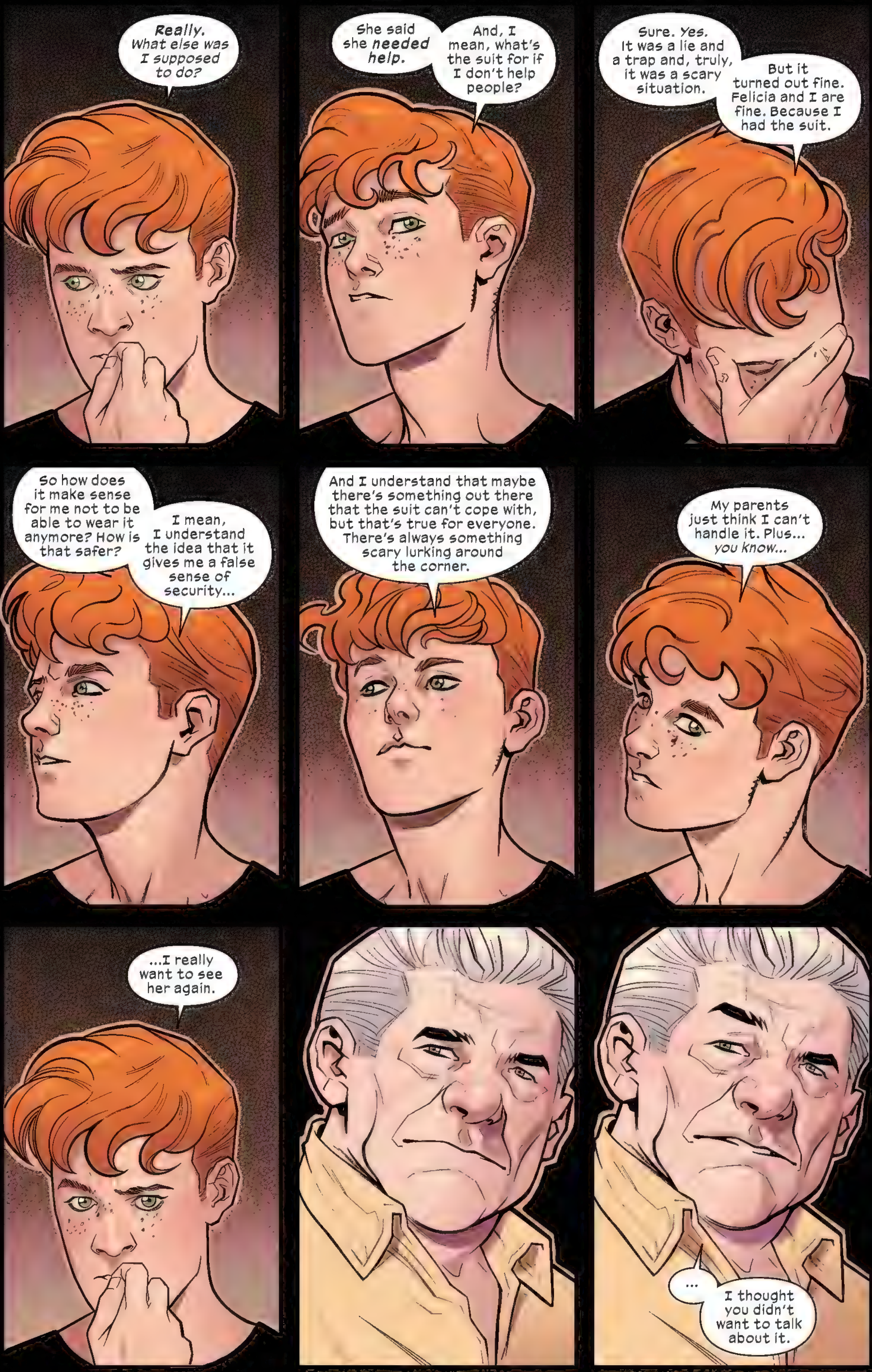

And how'd you feel about that?
Confused. Excited. Worried...
Maybe a little betrayed.
Maybe a lot. But I had good reasons, just like Peter did...
It was a secret between people who aren't supposed to have them. Almost everyone calls that *betrayal.*
You don't seem very remorseful.
My apology was saving his life.
And, hoo boy, am I grateful.
Let's have some dinner.

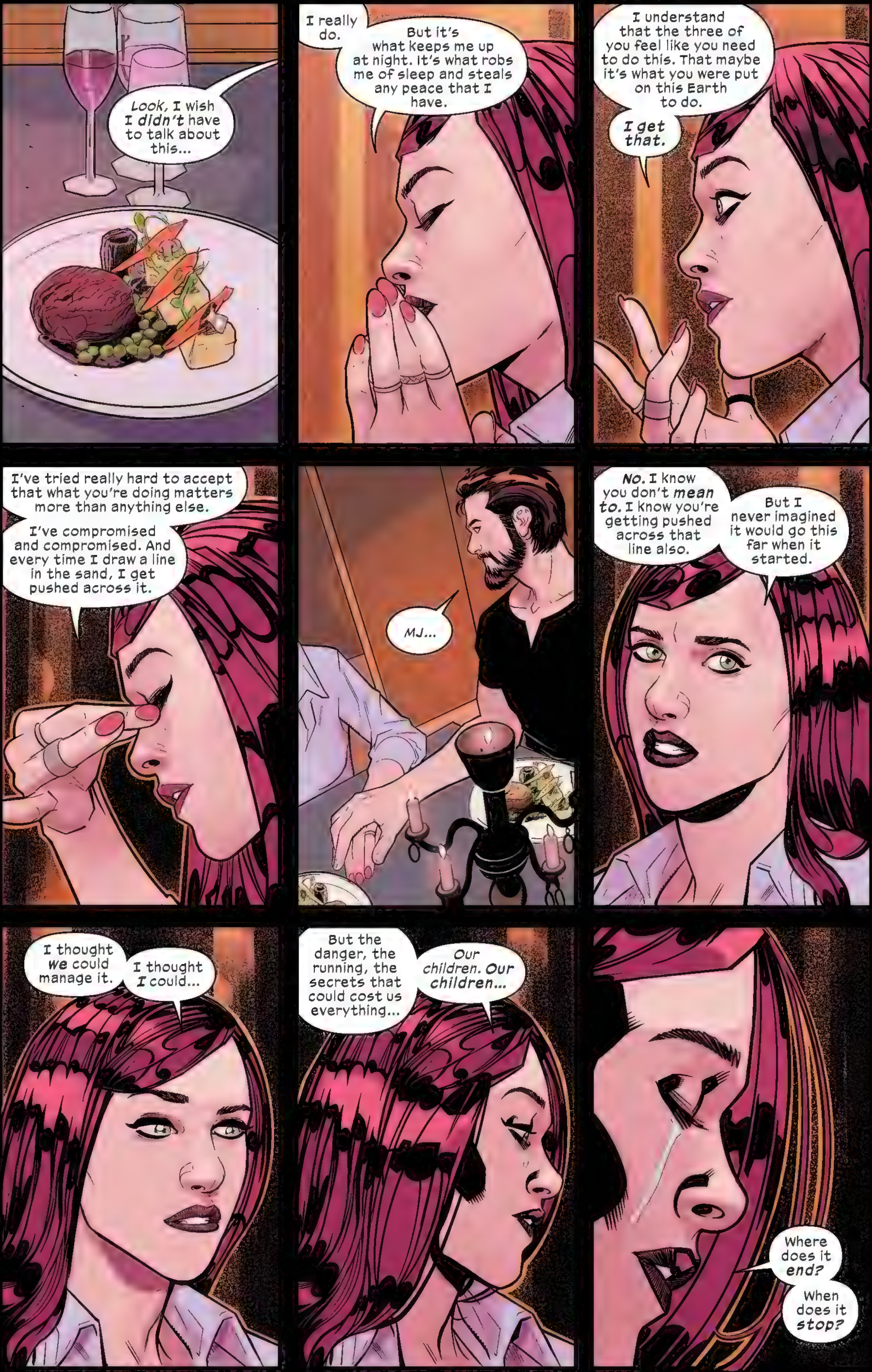

Have you seen this one?
I don't really watch TV, Uncle Ben.
It's a movie, son.
Anyone want something from the kitchen?
No thanks, Anna. We're good.
The thing is... it's rated R and I'm not sure Mom and Dad would be cool with May watching this.
It's okay. May's asleep.
I'm not asleep. I just have my eyes closed.
Super tight.
Ha! That was a trap... I really just wanted to know if you were asleep or not.

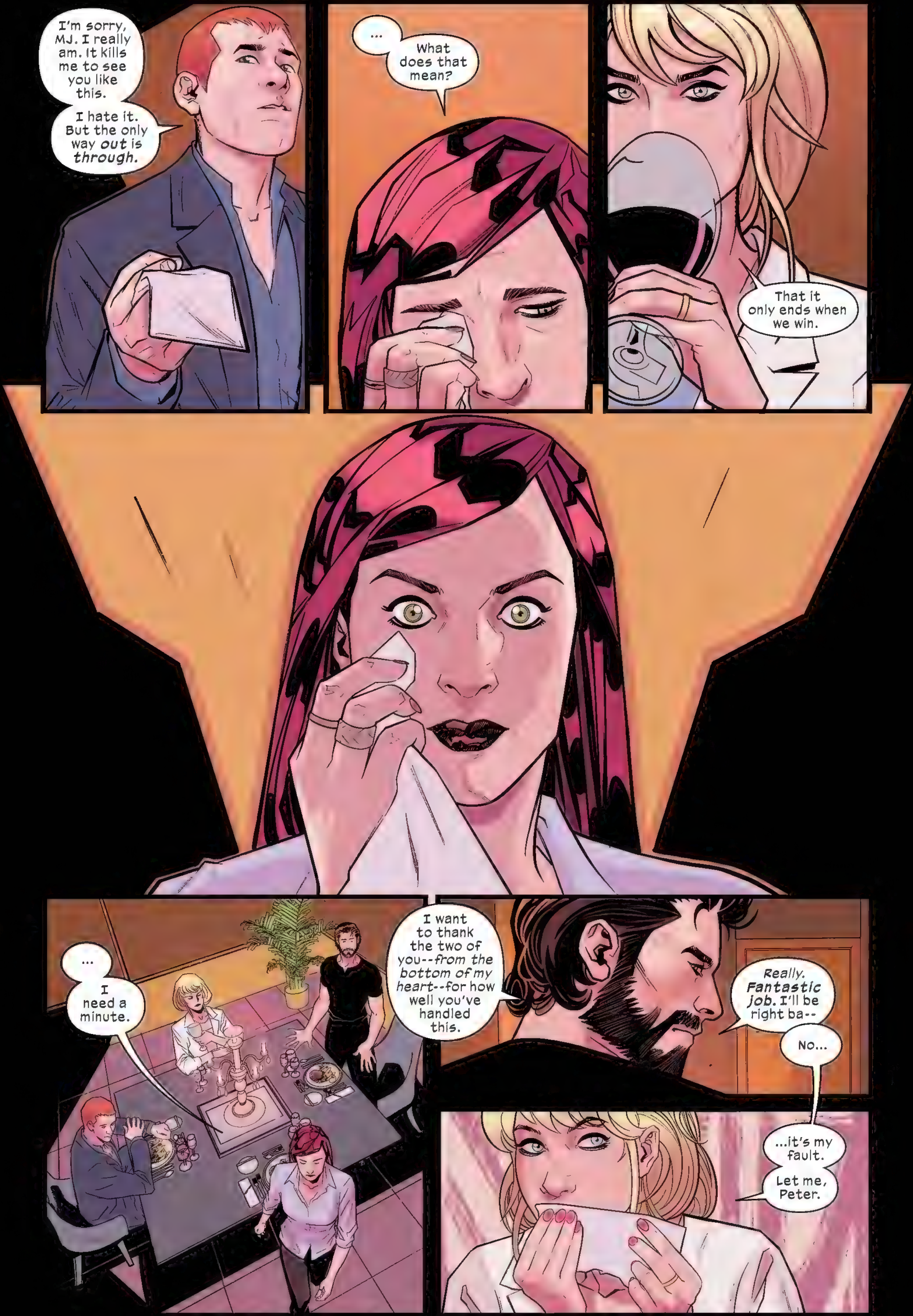

Still, we shouldn't be watching this.
You're right.
So what do you say that instead of watching a movie about a bank heist, we talk about how much trouble you've been getting in?
CLICK
Ha! Now that was a trap, Richard!
I'm going to bed.
I'll take care of this one, Ben.
You handle the hooligan.
...
I really don't want to talk about it, Uncle Ben.
...
Seriously.

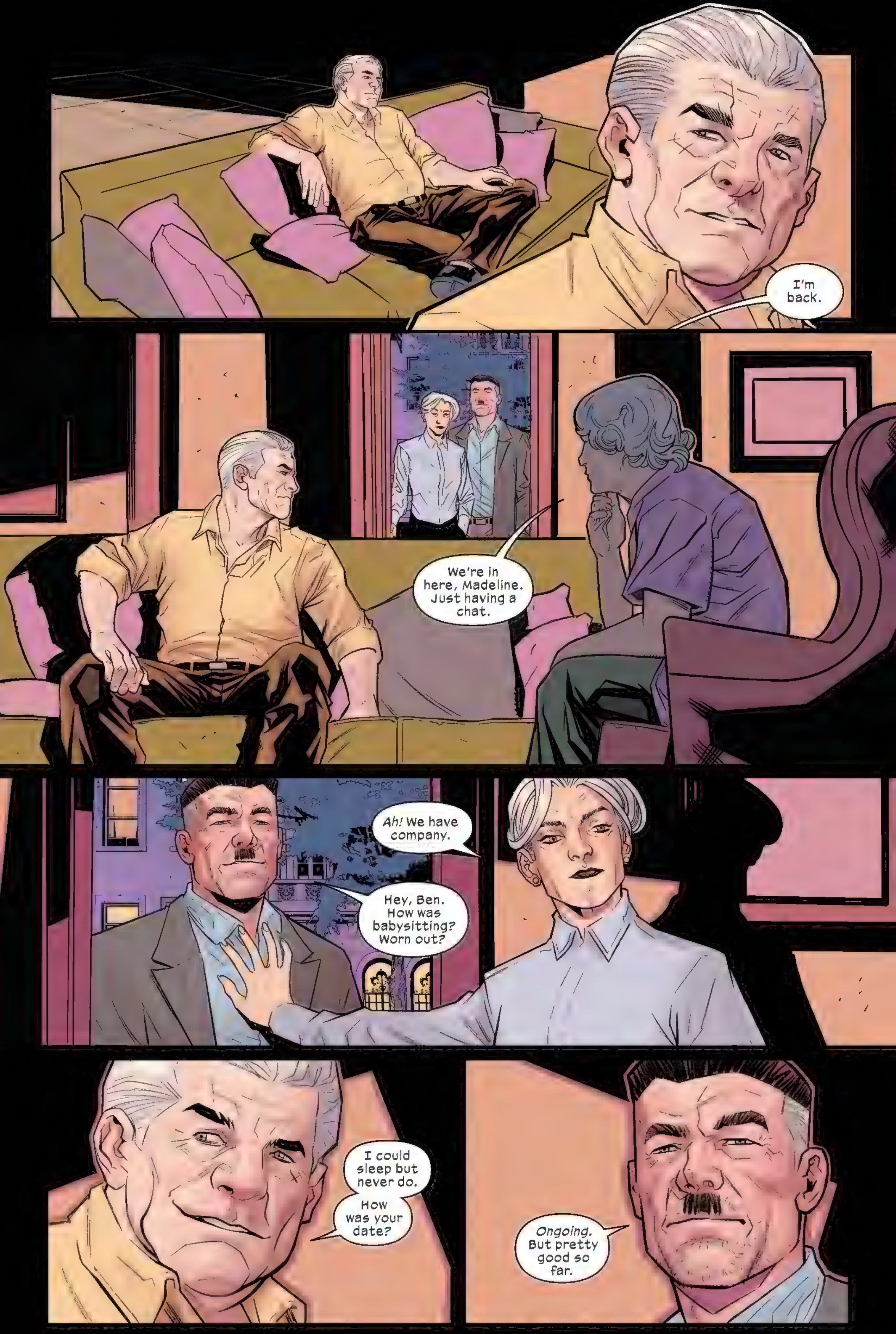

So, this chef...is European. I really love what she's doing--*it's experimental and playful, but not overly complicated...*
It's just well done. *You know what I mean?*
Harry, I'm sure it's great. But no one cares about the food tonight.
Oh, wow.
Exactly, dear. We're here to settle queasy stomachs and put minds at rest.
Please...tell us how we can do that, Mary Jane.
I have a billion questions. I mean, I know what I know about Peter...
But the two of you? I have no idea what's at play...
For example: How many people around you know what's really going on? Do they know about us? What enemies do you have that we don't know about?
I could go on.
You should. *Keep going.*
The point is, it's become obvious to me that the three of you are joined at the hip.
For better or for worse.
Like a black hole. Sucking in everything around it.
...
You're worried about your kids.

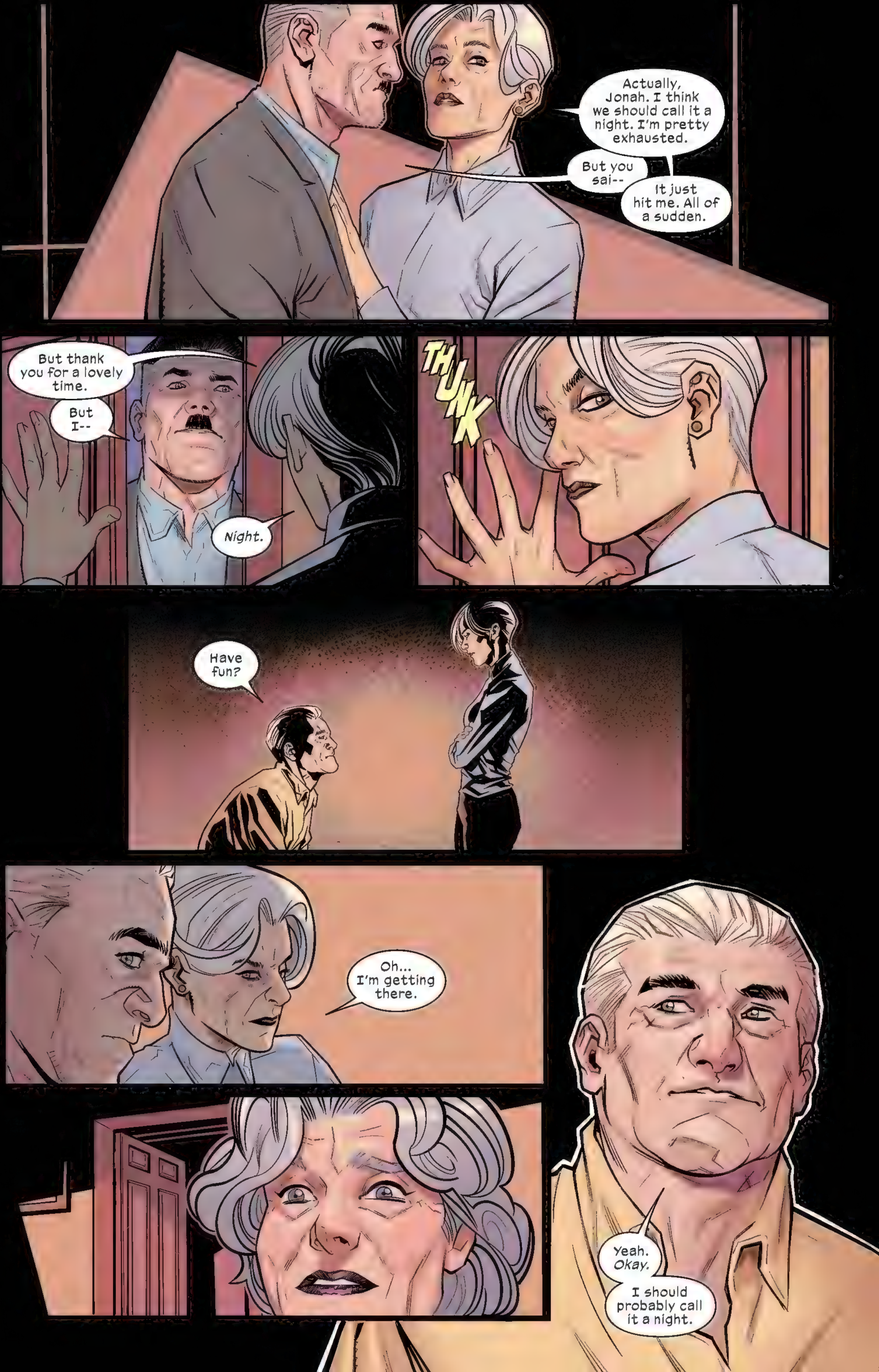

Of course we are. And about each other.
And the two of you, for the record.
Right back at you, buddy.
So that's the real question?
Not whether the battle is righteous or worth it...or if we can even win...
What you really care about is what it might cost.
Damn right I do.
But my problem with the way you're talking is, you act like you don't have anything to lose. That's terrifying to me.
It's true that I have less than you...but not nothing.
Like I said earlier, I betrayed a generational alliance for Harry.
And that's another thing. From the way that Peter explained it, you've been posing as a villain--*real or not*--the whole time.
You know it's more complicated than that, MJ.
And the thing is... everyone needs saving.
Everyone.]

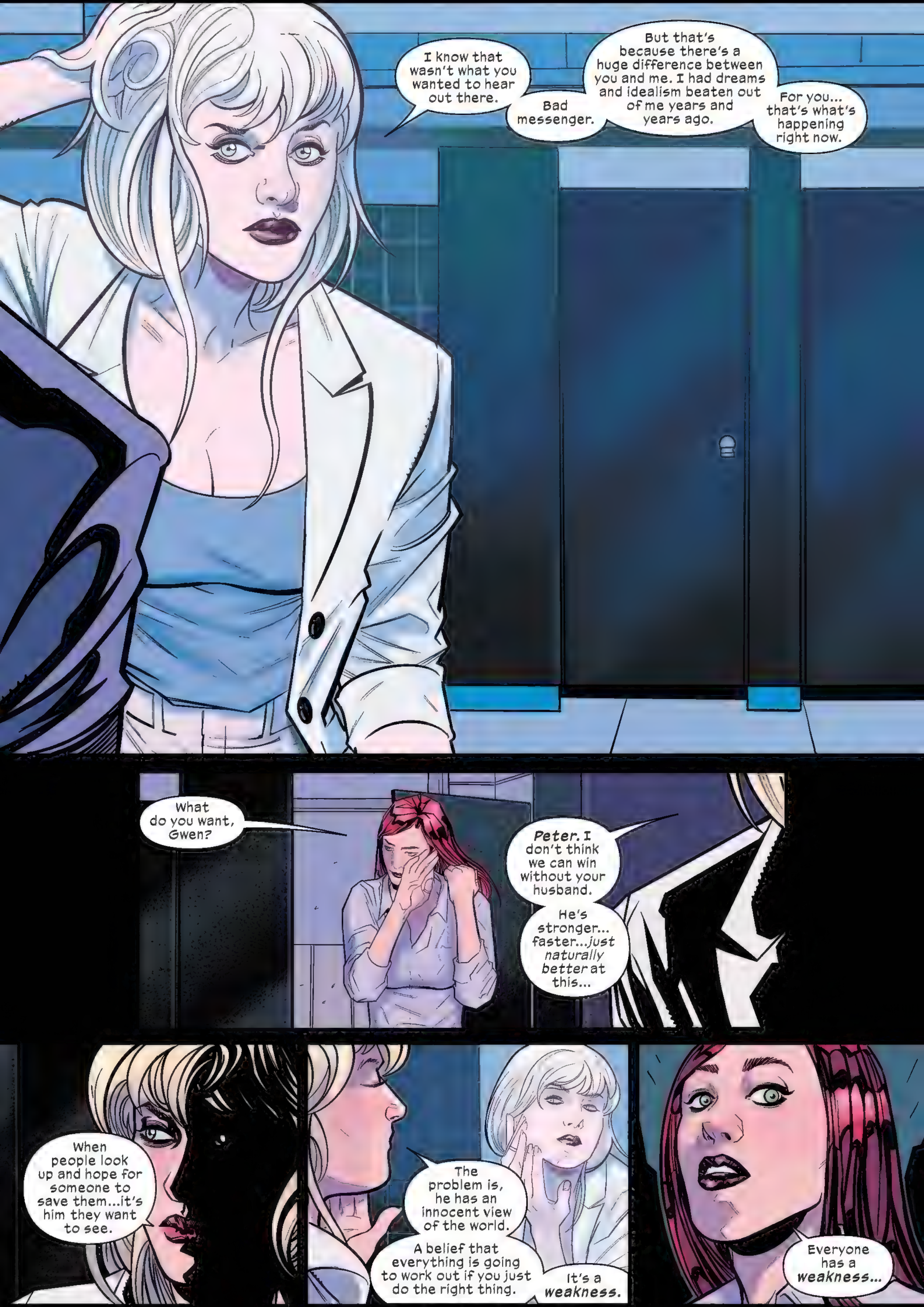

Really. What else was I supposed to do?
She said she *needed help.*
And, I mean, what's the suit for if I don't help people?
Sure. Yes. It was a lie and a trap and, truly, it was a scary situation.
But it turned out fine. Felicia and I are fine. Because I had the suit.
So how does it make sense for me not to be able to wear it anymore? How is that safer?
I mean, I understand the idea that it gives me a false sense of security...
And I understand that maybe there's something out there that the suit can't cope with, but that's true for everyone. There's always something scary lurking around the corner.
My parents just think I can't handle it. Plus... *you know...*
...I really want to see her again.
...
I thought you didn't want to talk about it.

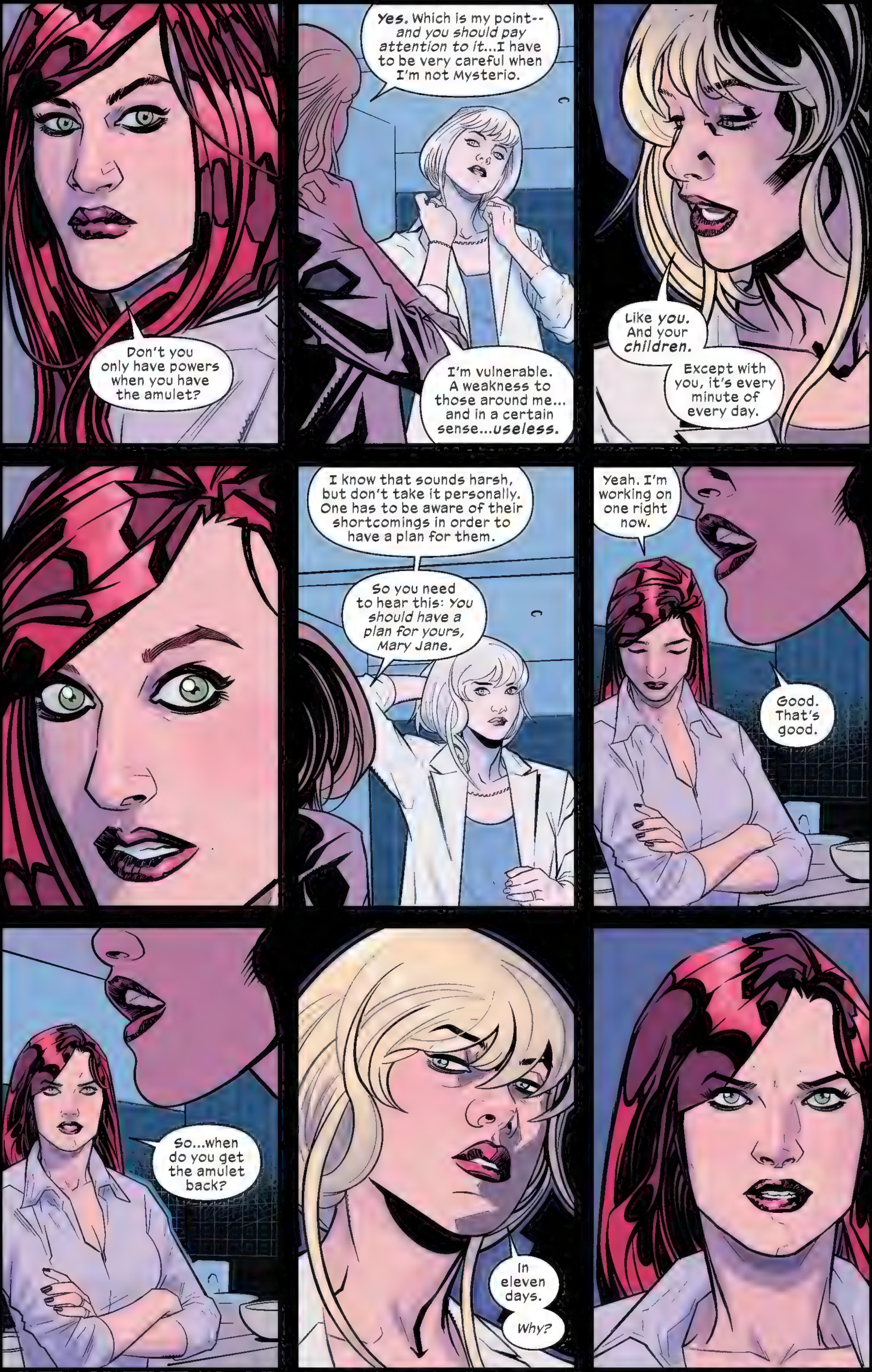

Look, I wish I *didn't* have to talk about this...
I really do.
But it's what keeps me up at night. It's what robs me of sleep and steals any peace that I have.
I understand that the three of you feel like you need to do this. That maybe it's what you were put on this Earth to do.
I get that.
I've tried really hard to accept that what you're doing matters more than anything else.
I've compromised and compromised. And every time I draw a line in the sand, I get pushed across it.
MJ...
No. I know you don't *mean to.* I know you're getting pushed across that line also.
But I never imagined it would go this far when it started.
I thought *we* could manage it.
I thought *I* could...
But the danger, the running, the secrets that could cost us everything...
Our children. Our children...
Where does it *end?*
When does it *stop?*

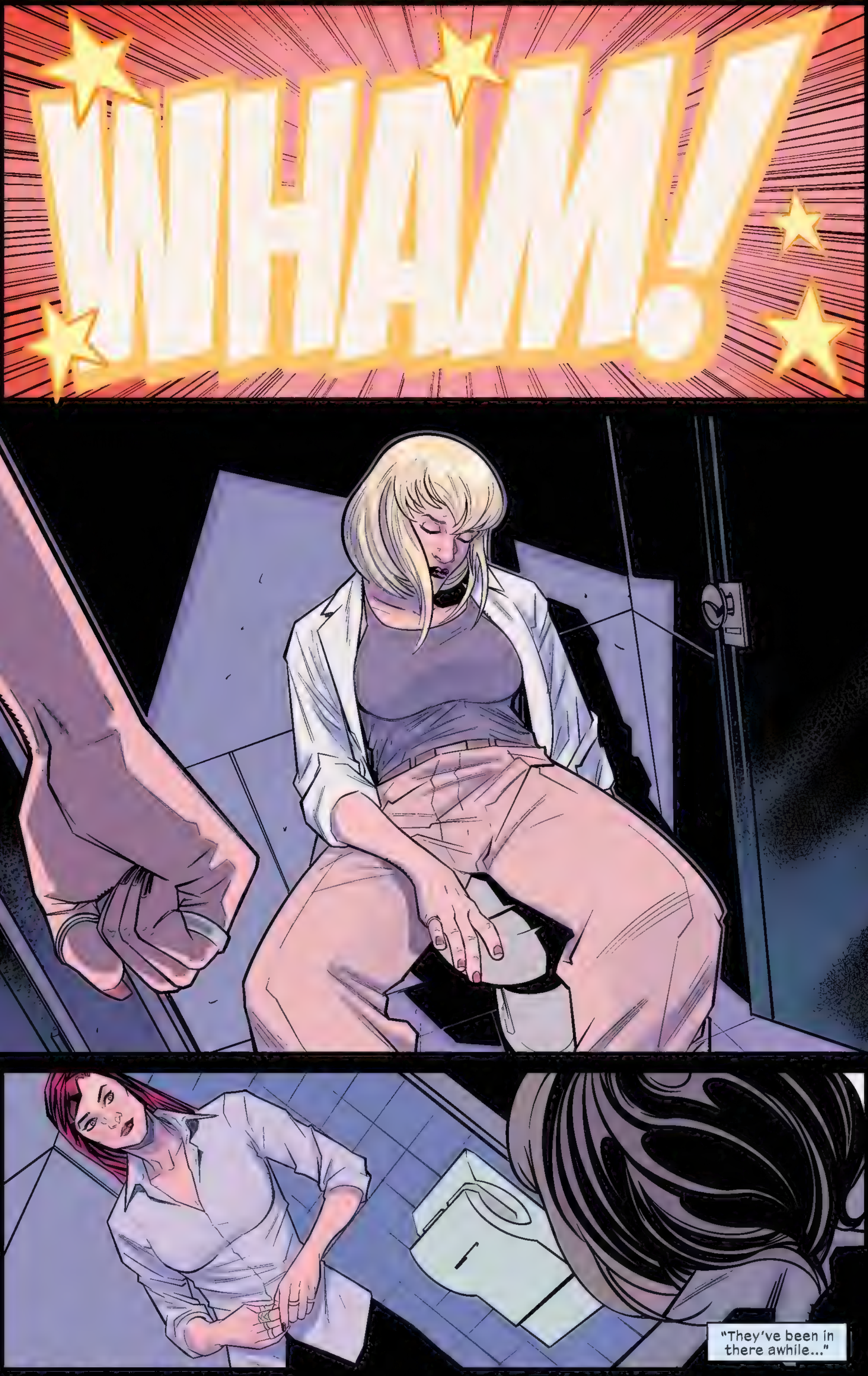

I'm sorry, MJ. I really am. It kills me to see you like this.
I hate it. But the only way *out* is *through.*
...
What does that mean?
That it only ends when we win.
...
I need a minute.
I want to thank the two of you--*from the bottom of my heart*--for how well you've handled this.
Really. **Fantastic** *job.* I'll be right ba--
No...
...it's my fault.
Let me, Peter.

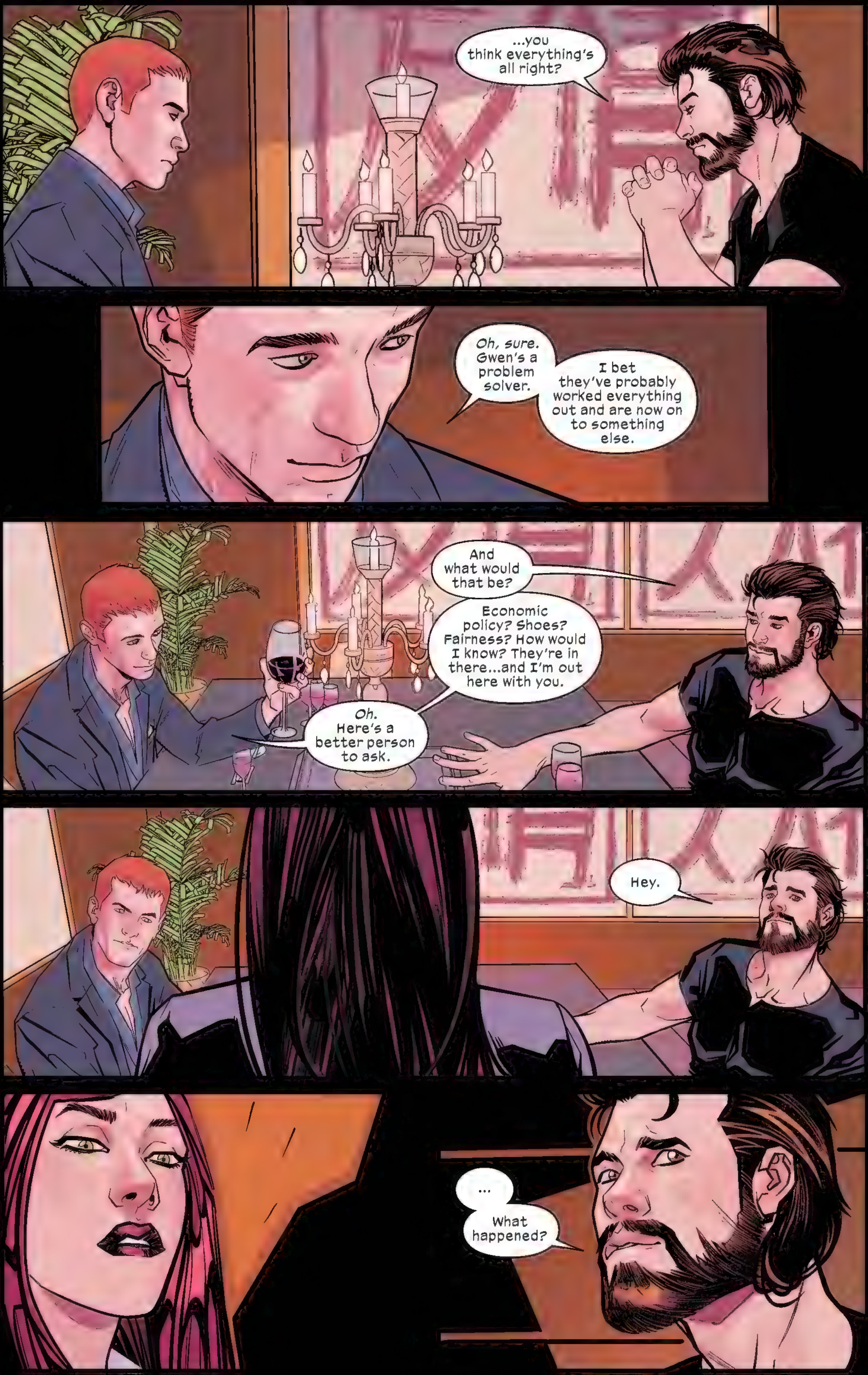

I'm back.
We're in here, Madeline. Just having a chat.
Ah! We have company.
Hey, Ben. How was babysitting? Worn out?
I could sleep but never do.
How was your date?
Ongoing. But pretty good so far.

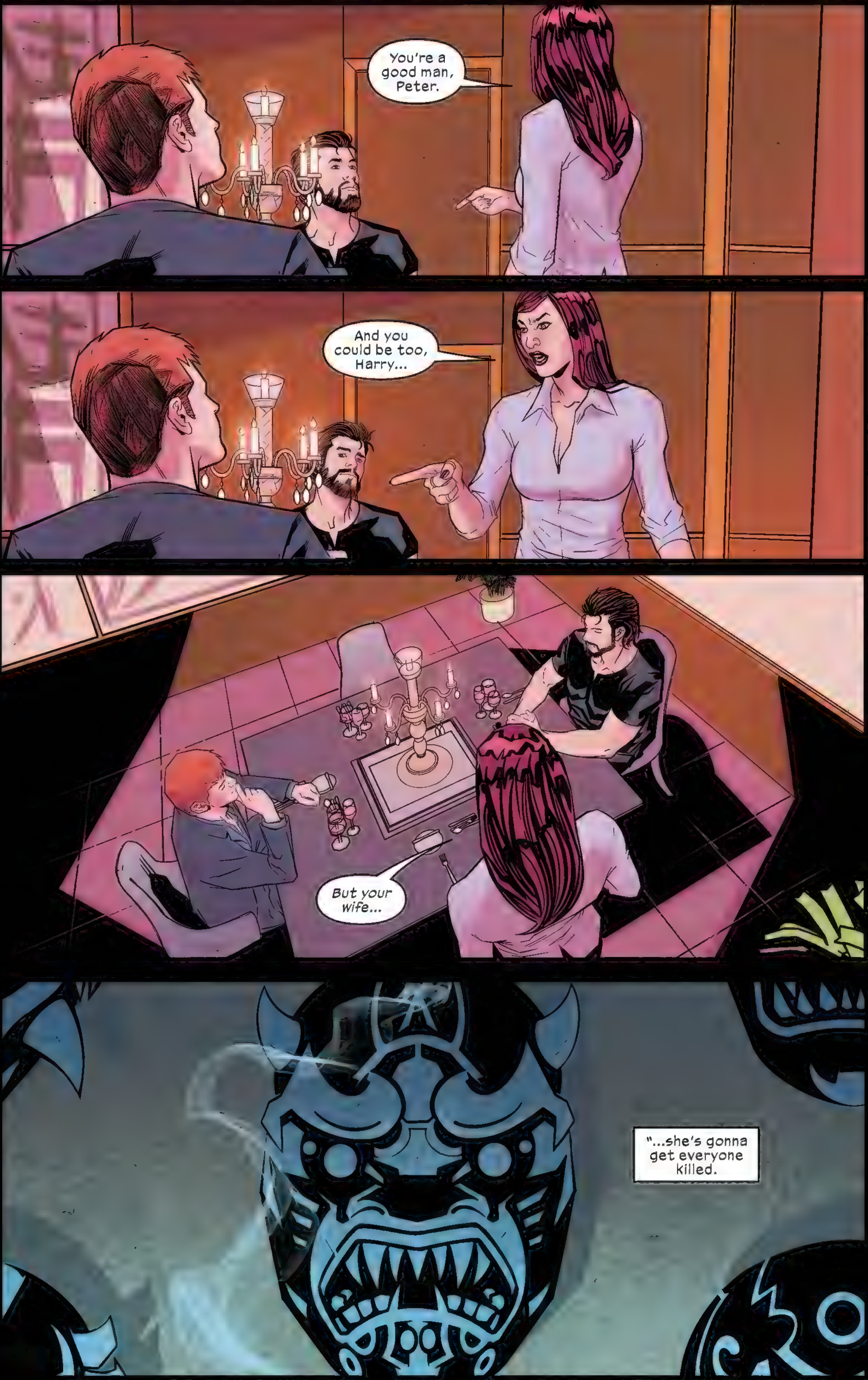

Actually, Jonah. I think we should call it a night. I'm pretty exhausted.
But you sai--
It just hit me. All of a sudden.
But thank you for a lovely time.
But I--
Night.
THUNK
Have fun?
Oh... I'm getting there.
Yeah. *Okay.*
I should probably call it a night.

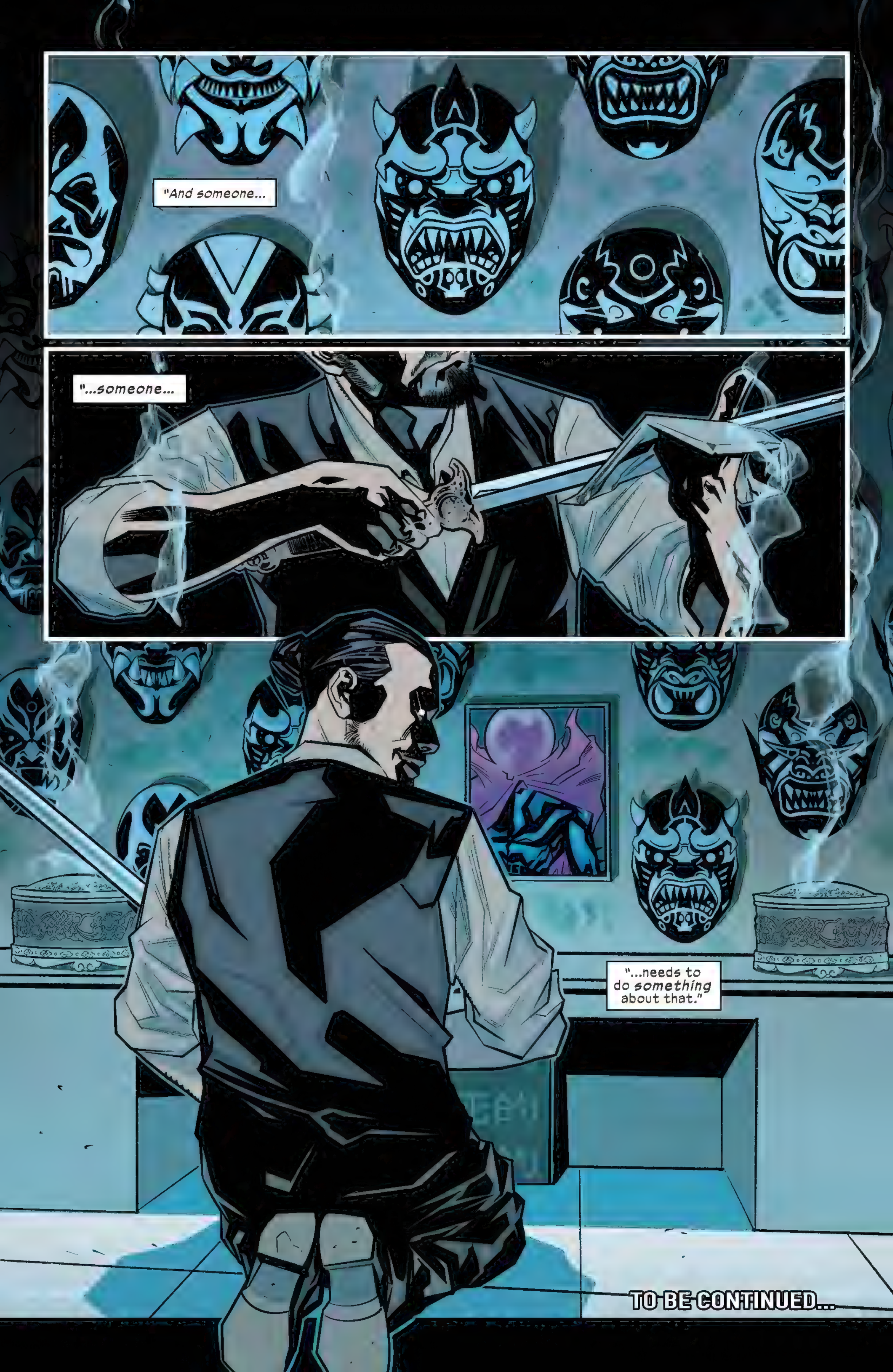

I know that wasn't what you wanted to hear out there.
Bad messenger.
But that's because there's a huge difference between you and me. I had dreams and idealism beaten out of me years and years ago.
For you... that's what's happening right now.
What do you want, Gwen?
Peter. I don't think we can win without your husband.
He's stronger... faster...*just naturally better* at this...
When people look up and hope for someone to save them...it's him they want to see.
The problem is, he has an innocent view of the world.
A belief that everything is going to work out if you just do the right thing.
It's a *weakness.*
Everyone has a *weakness...*


Don't you only have powers when you have the amulet?
Yes. Which is my point-- and you should pay *attention to it*...I have to be very careful when I'm not Mysterio.
I'm vulnerable. A weakness to those around me... and in a certain sense...*useless.*
Like *you.* And your *children.*
Except with you, it's every minute of every day.
I know that sounds harsh, but don't take it personally. One has to be aware of their shortcomings in order to have a plan for them.
So you need to hear this: *You should have a plan for yours,* Mary Jane.
Yeah. I'm working on one right now.
Good. That's good.
So...when do you get the amulet back?
In eleven days.
Why?


WHAM!
"They've been in there awhile..."


...you think everything's all right?
Oh, sure. Gwen's a problem solver.
I bet they've probably worked everything out and are now on to something else.
And what would that be?
Economic policy? Shoes? Fairness? How would I know? They're in there...and I'm out here with you.
Oh. Here's a better person to ask.
Hey.
...
What happened?


You're a good man, Peter.
And you could be too, Harry...
But your wife...
"...she's gonna get everyone killed.


"And someone...
"...someone...
"...needs to do *something* about that."
TO BE CONTINUED...

WRITER: **JONATHAN HICKMAN**
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LETTERER: **VC's CORY PETIT**
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SPIDER-MAN CREATED BY **STAN LEE** & **STEVE DITKO**

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MESSINA | WILSON
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ON SALE IN **SEPTEMBER**

ON SALE THIS MONTH

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ULTIMATE BLACK PANTHER #19

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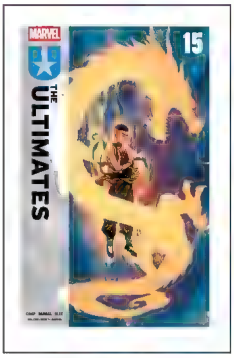
PEACH MOMOKO

ULTIMATE X-MEN #18

BY **PEACH MOMOKO**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ULTIMATES #15

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& **VON RANDAL**

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ULTIMATE WOLVERINE #8

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ALESSANDRO CAPPUCCIO

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3
CAMP ZIGLAR
SCHARF

ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN: INCURSION #3

BY **DENIZ CAMP**, **CODY ZIGLAR**
& **JONAS SCHARF**

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19

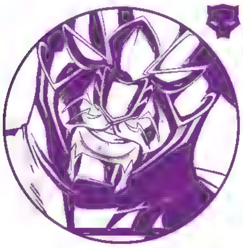
A diabolical genius known as **THE MAKER** created his ideal Earth by systematically preventing anyone from ever becoming a super hero. To rule his perfected Earth, he placed super villains in charge of different regions, and together, **THE MAKER'S COUNCIL** quietly orchestrated the history of the world.

KING T'CHALLA of the highly advanced, isolated **WAKANDA** thought he'd triumphed over the evils of the Maker's Council. But **RA** and **KHONSHU**, the overseers of the African continent, had unlocked a larger, more dangerous power by activating **VIBRANIUM**, the element upon which Wakanda was built.

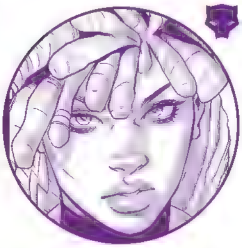
After T'Challa defeated Ra and Khonshu, he and the **SORCERER SUPREME**, **INAN**, accidentally unleashed a dark spirit within vibranium. **BLACK PANTHER** and **STORM** followed the spirit, which had possessed two humans and turned them into the **PROGENITORS**, while **KILLMONGER** and **OKOYE** led Wakanda. But the head progenitor threatened Black Panther, and Storm disappeared...

ULTIMATE BLACK PANTHER

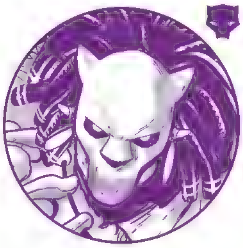
CAST:



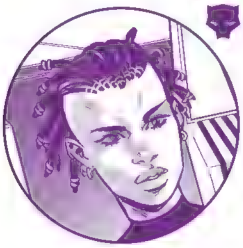
BLACK PANTHER
KING T'CHALLA



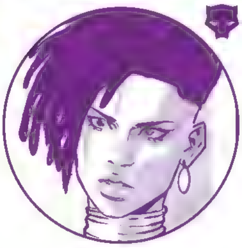
STORM
ORORO MUNROE



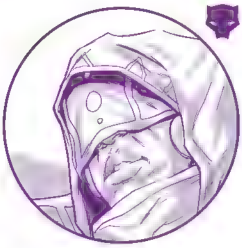
KILLMONGER
ERIK KILLMONGER



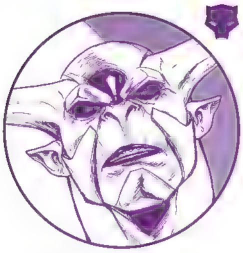
SHURI
WOMAN-AT-ARMS,
T'CHALLA'S SISTER



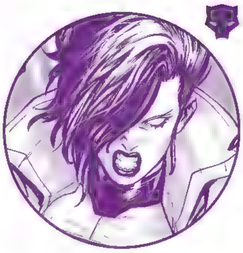
QUEEN OKOYE
HIGH MENTOR OF
THE DORA MILAJE



MATRON IMALA
SACRED MOTHER OF
THE VODU-KHAN

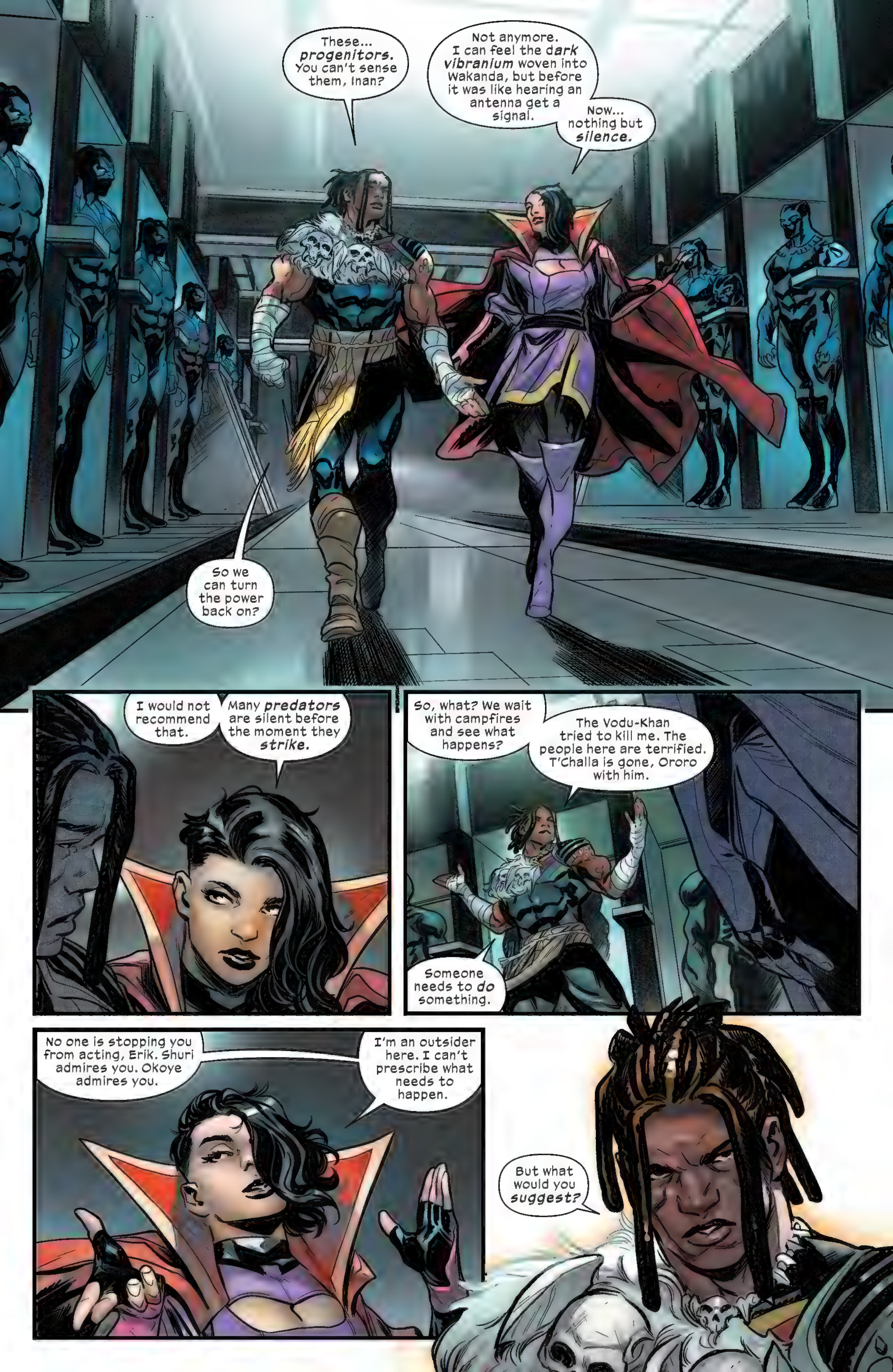


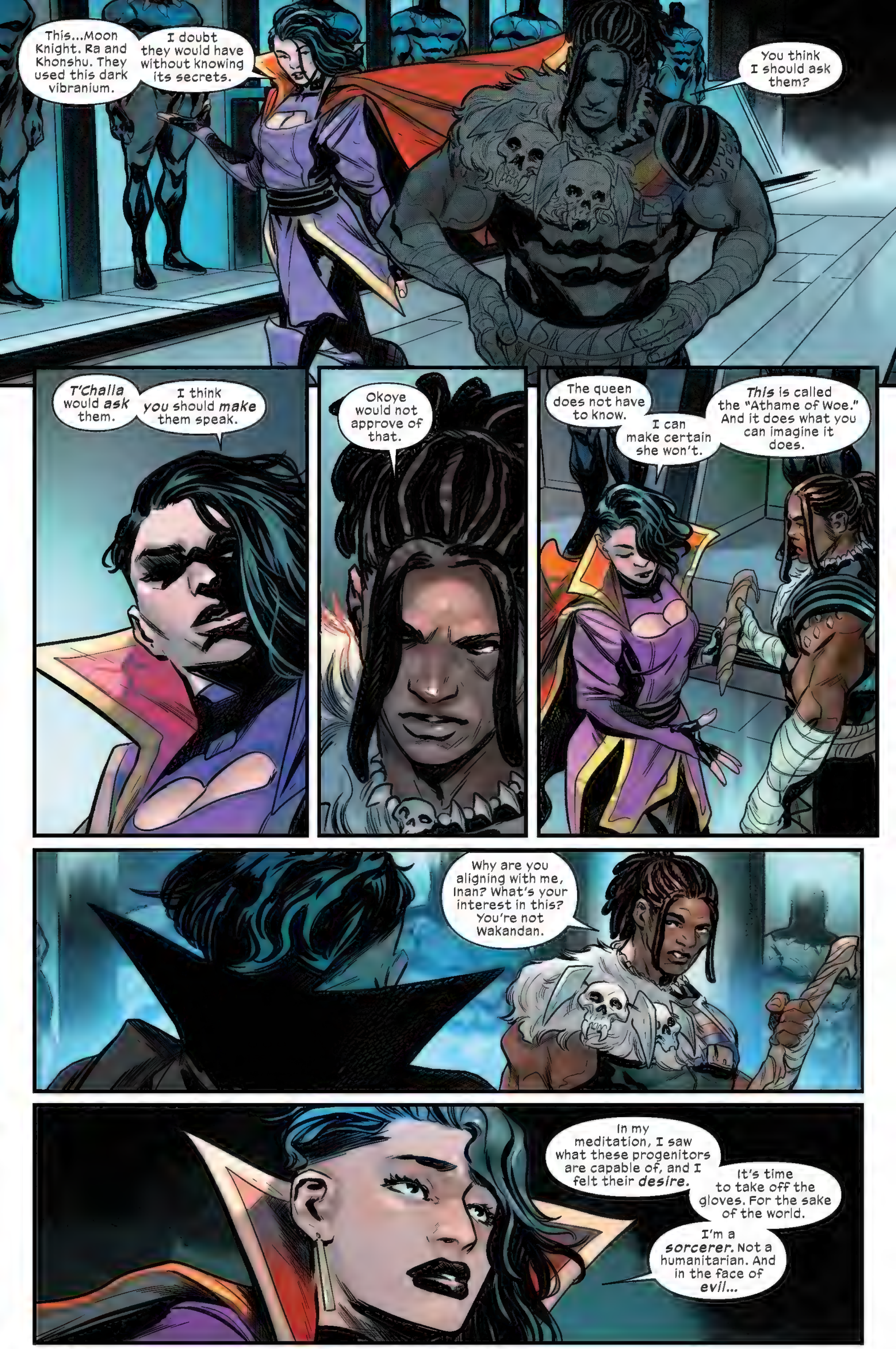
Z'NON
SPIRIT OF
VIBRANIUM

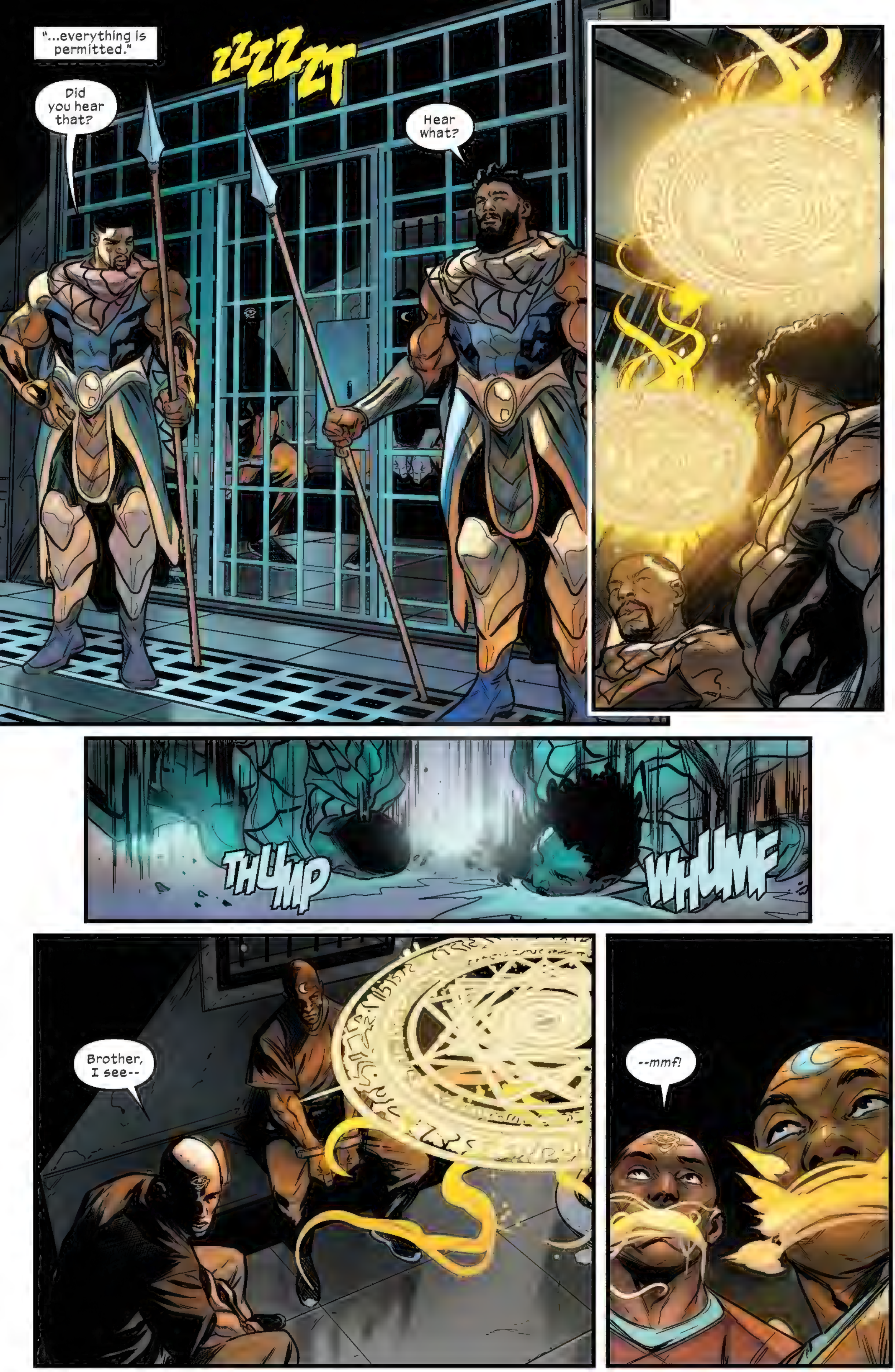


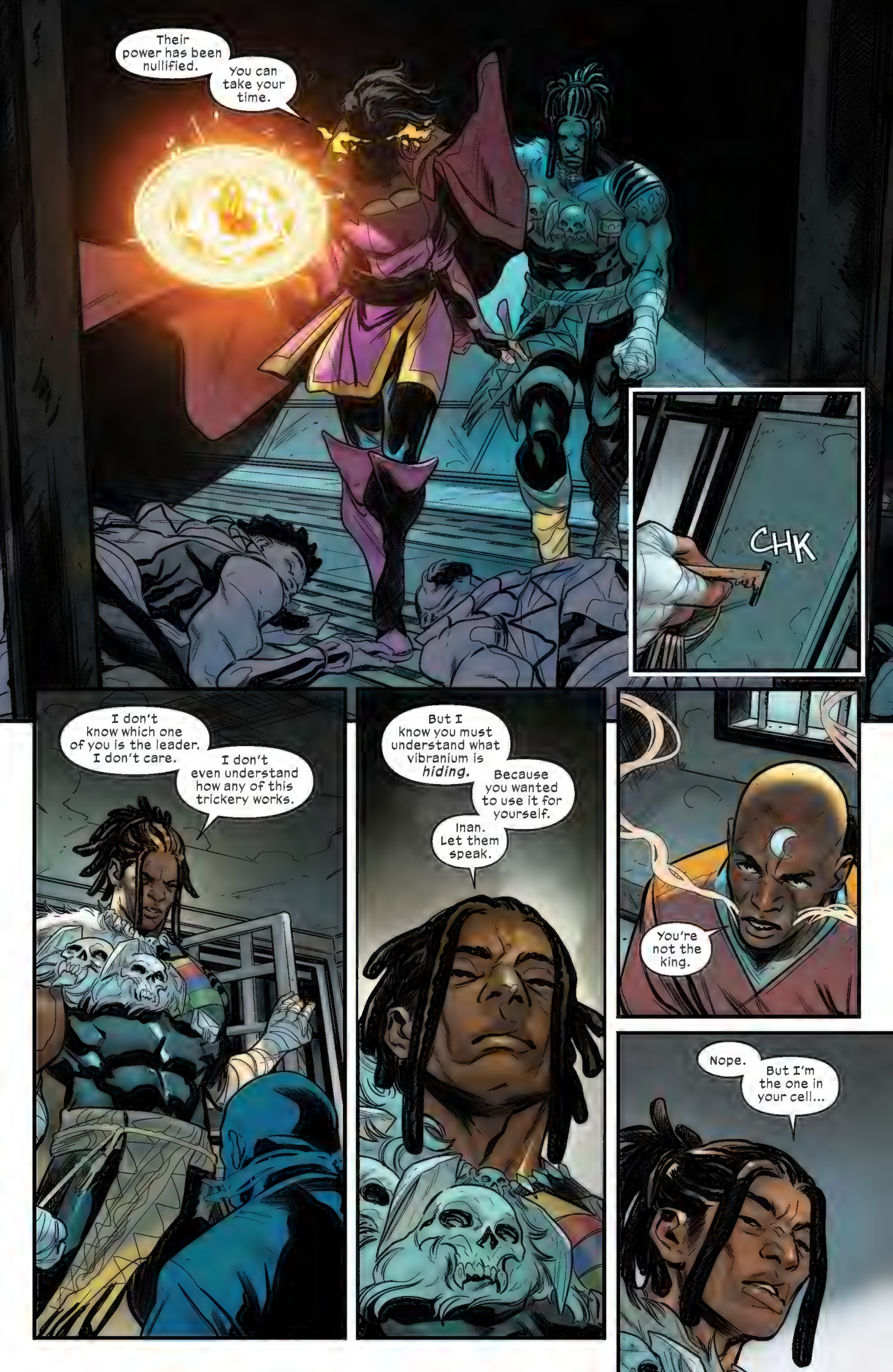
INAN
THE SORCERER
SUPREME

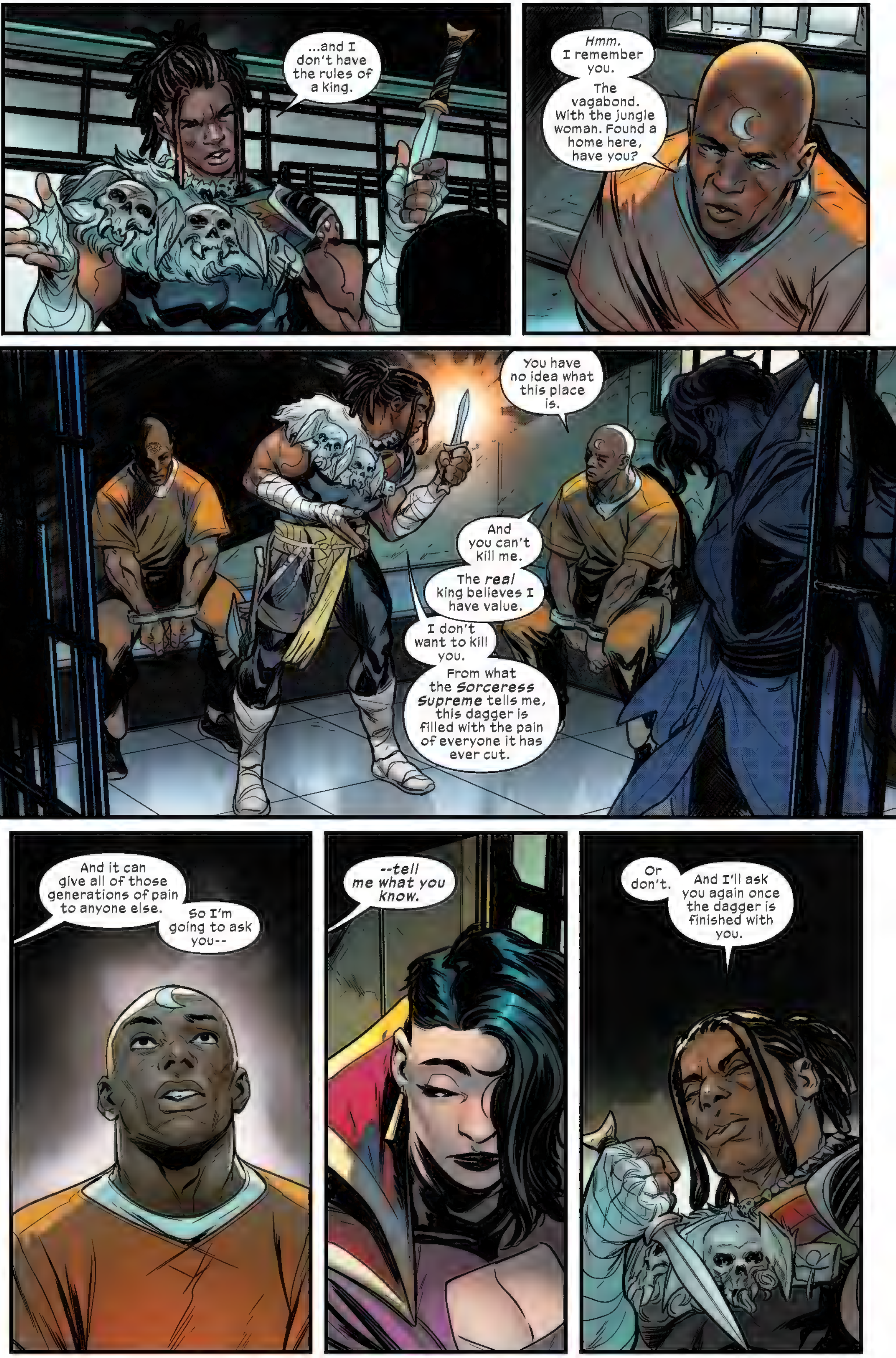
AUGUST 2025

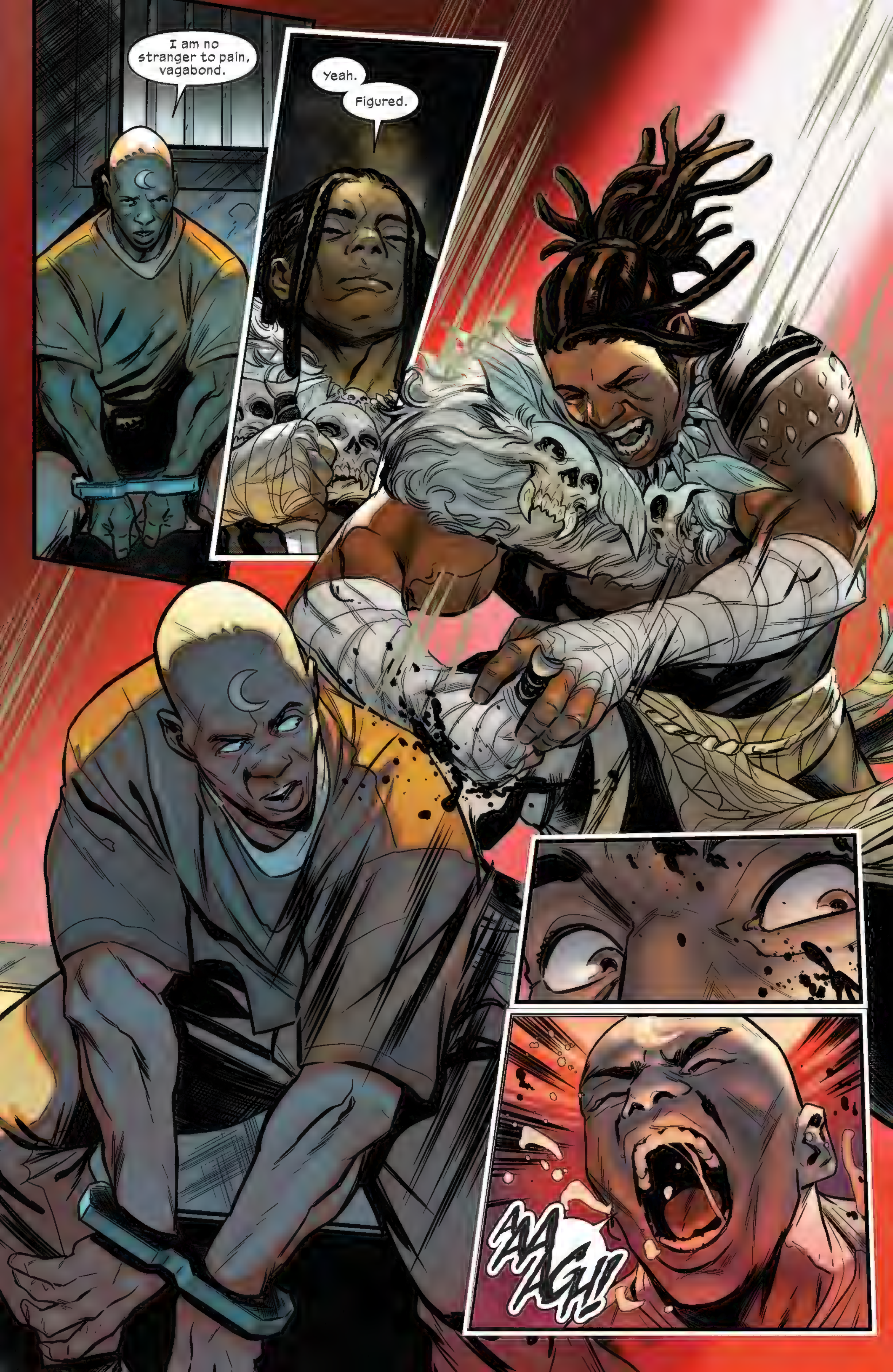

These... progenitors. You can't sense them, Inan?
Not anymore. I can feel the dark vibranium woven into Wakanda, but before it was like hearing an antenna get a signal.
Now... nothing but silence.
So we can turn the power back on?
I would not recommend that.
Many predators are silent before the moment they strike.
So, what? We wait with campfires and see what happens?
The Vodu-Khan tried to kill me. The people here are terrified. T'Challa is gone, Ororo with him.
Someone needs to do something.
No one is stopping you from acting, Erik. Shuri admires you. Okoye admires you.
I'm an outsider here. I can't prescribe what needs to happen.
But what would you suggest?

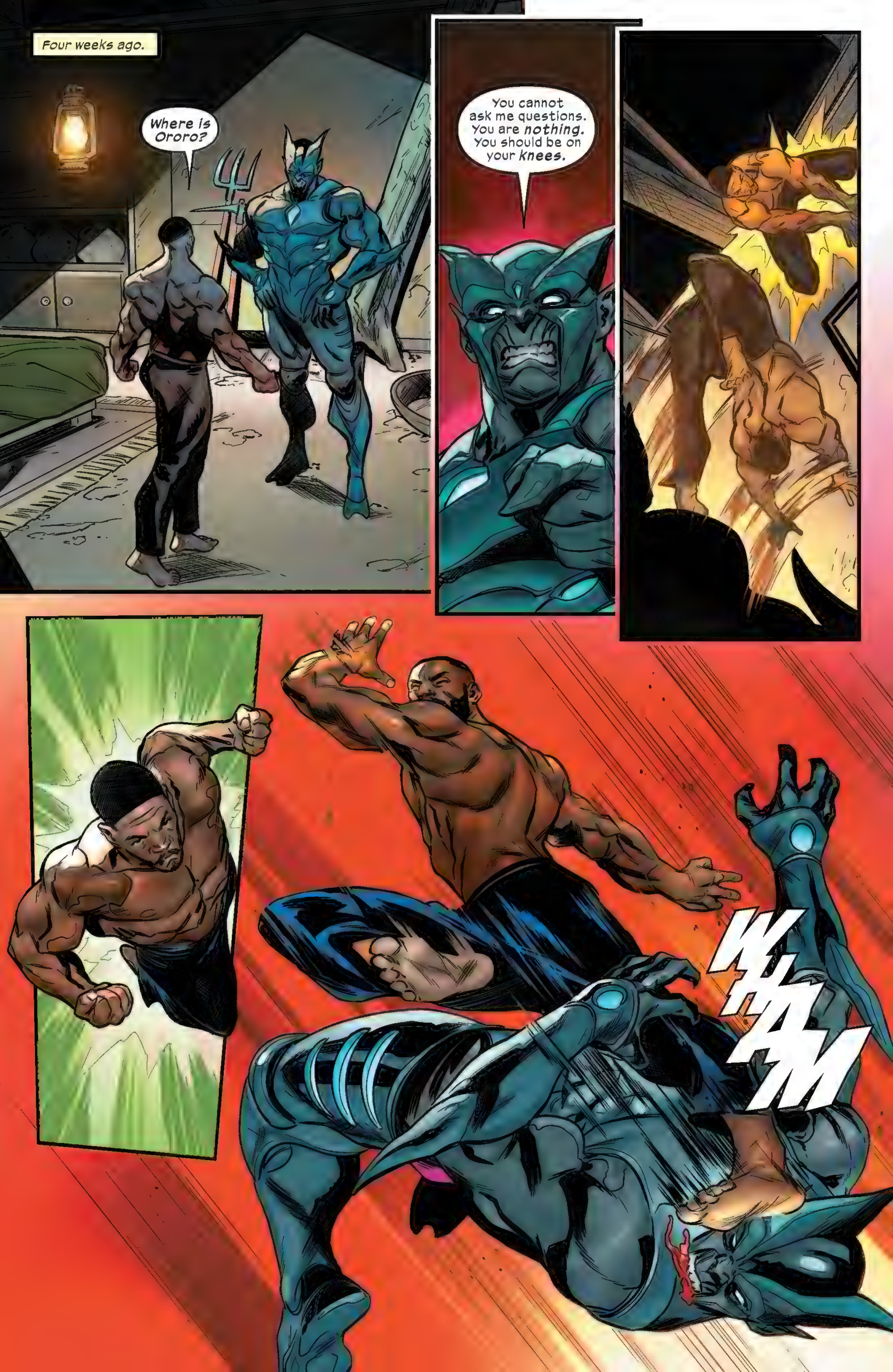

This...Moon Knight. Ra and Khonshu. They used this dark vibranium.
I doubt they would have without knowing its secrets.
You think I should ask them?
T'Challa would *ask* them.
I think *you* should *make* them speak.
Okoye would not approve of that.
The queen does not have to know.
I can make certain she won't.
This is called the "Athame of Woe." And it does what you can imagine it does.
Why are you aligning with me, Inan? What's your interest in this? You're not Wakandan.
In my meditation, I saw what these progenitors are capable of, and I felt their *desire*.
It's time to take off the gloves. For the sake of the world.
I'm a *sorcerer*. Not a humanitarian. And in the face of *evil*...

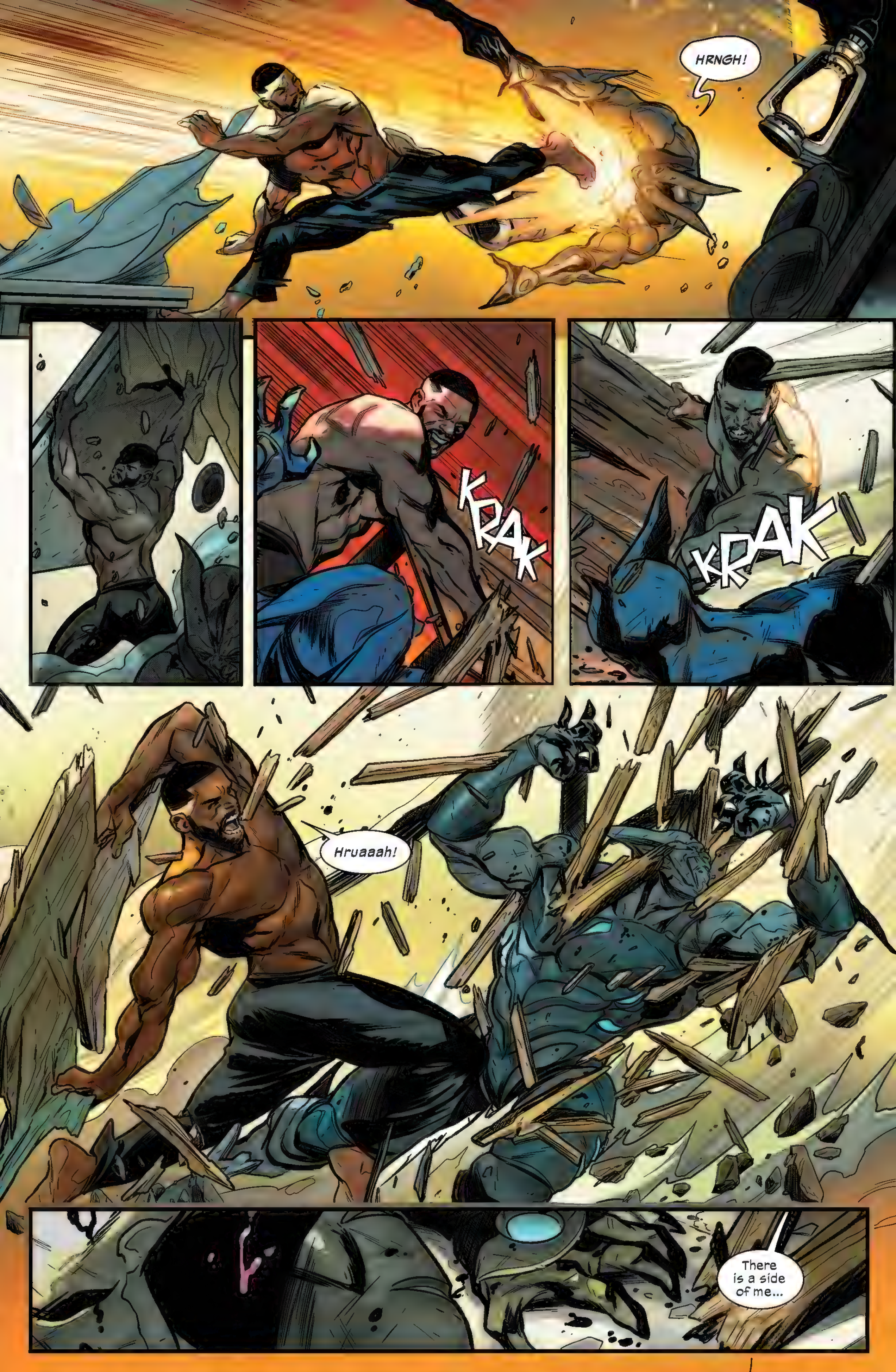

"...everything is permitted."
ZZZZZT
Did you hear that?
Hear what?
THUMP
WHUMF
Brother, I see--
--mmf!

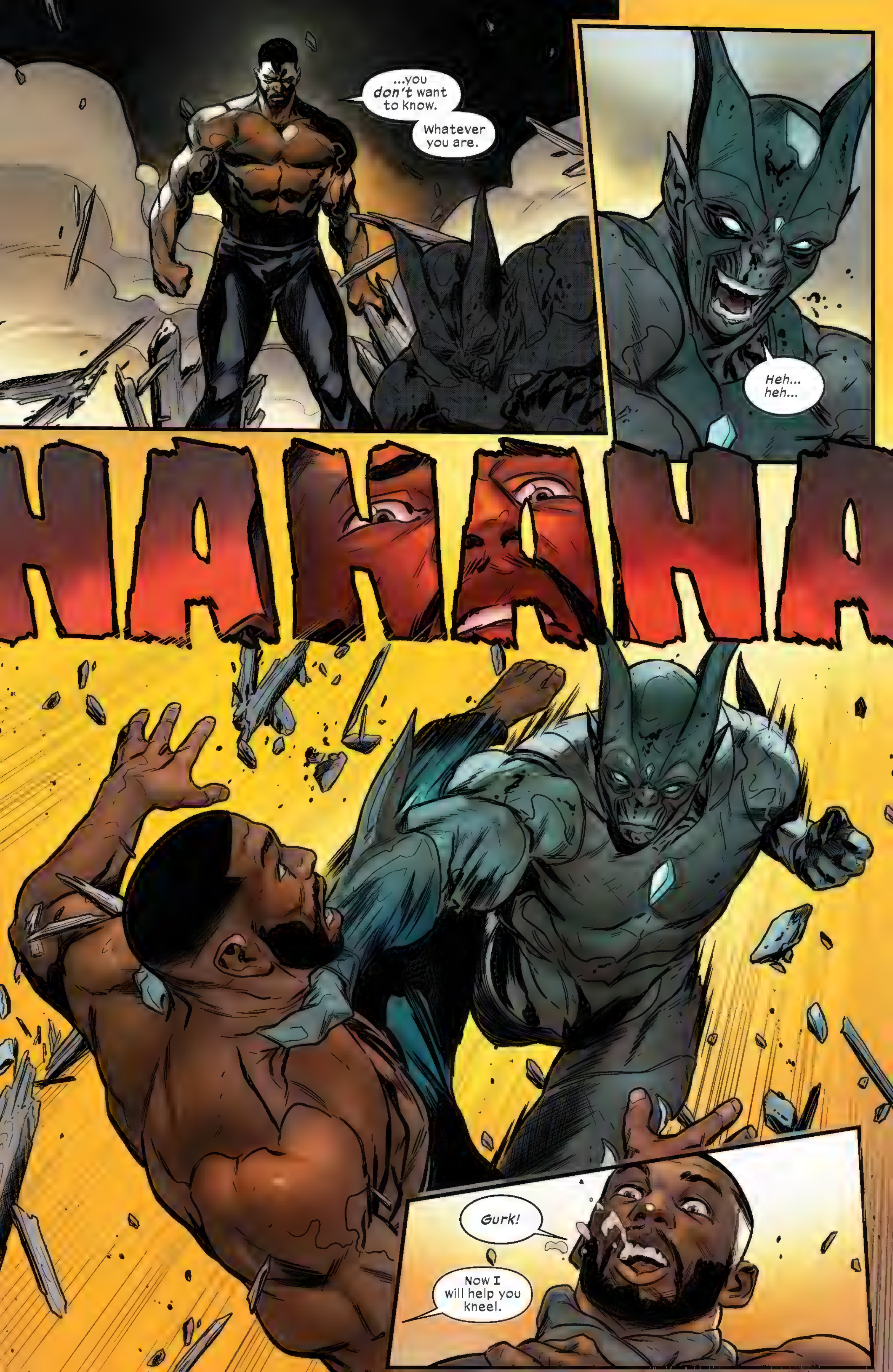

Their power has been nullified.
You can take your time.
CHK
I don't know which one of you is the leader. I don't care.
I don't even understand how any of this trickery works.
But I know you must understand what vibranium is *hiding.*
Because you wanted to use it for yourself.
Inan. Let them speak.
You're not the king.
Nope.
But I'm the one in your cell...

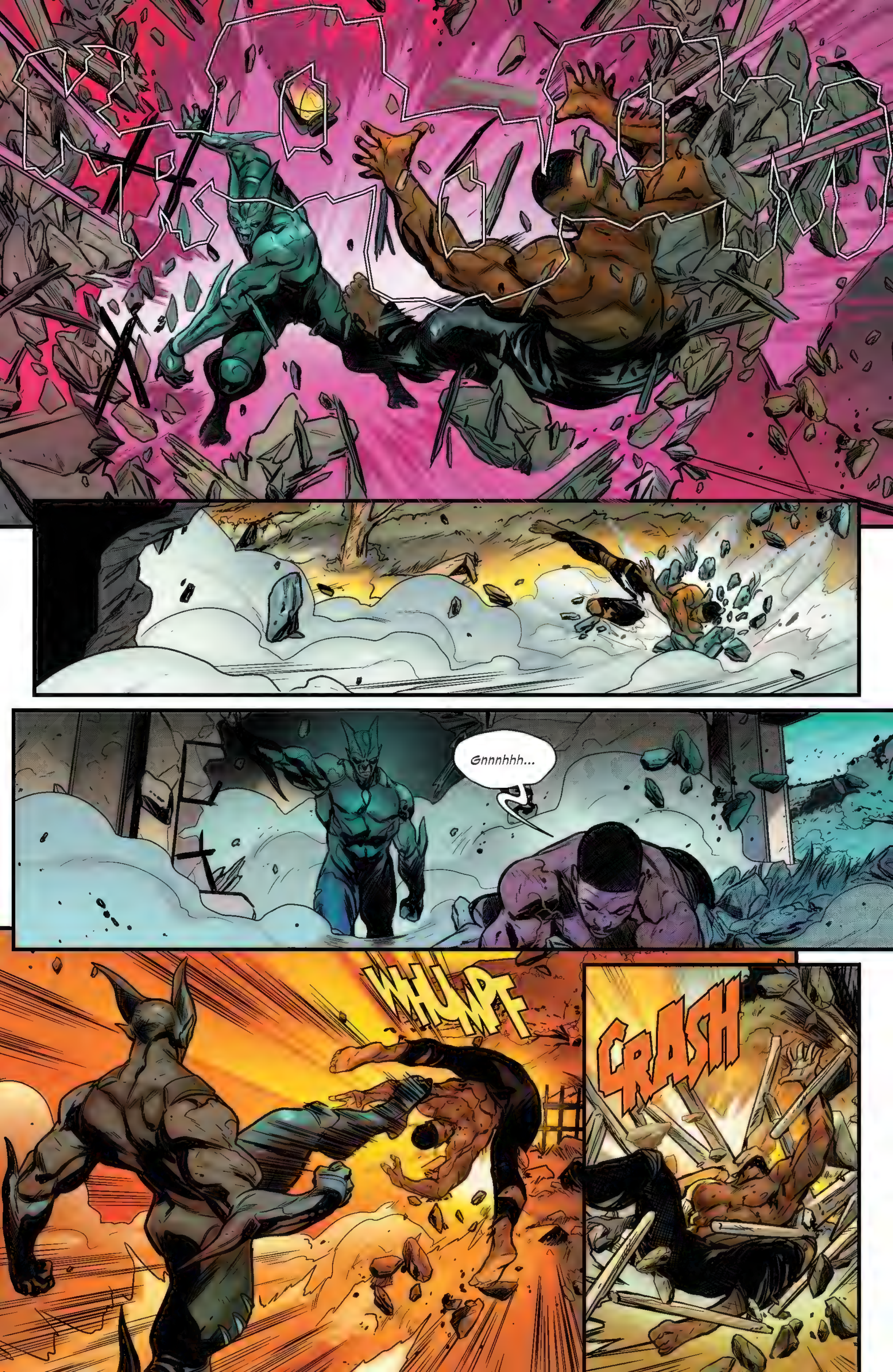

...and I don't have the rules of a king.
Hmm. I remember you.
The vagabond. With the jungle woman. Found a home here, have you?
You have no idea what this place is.
And you can't kill me.
The *real* king believes I have value.
I don't want to kill you.
From what the ***Sorceress Supreme*** tells me, this dagger is filled with the pain of everyone it has ever cut.
And it can give all of those generations of pain to anyone else.
So I'm going to ask you--
--tell me what you know.
Or don't.
And I'll ask you again once the dagger is finished with you.

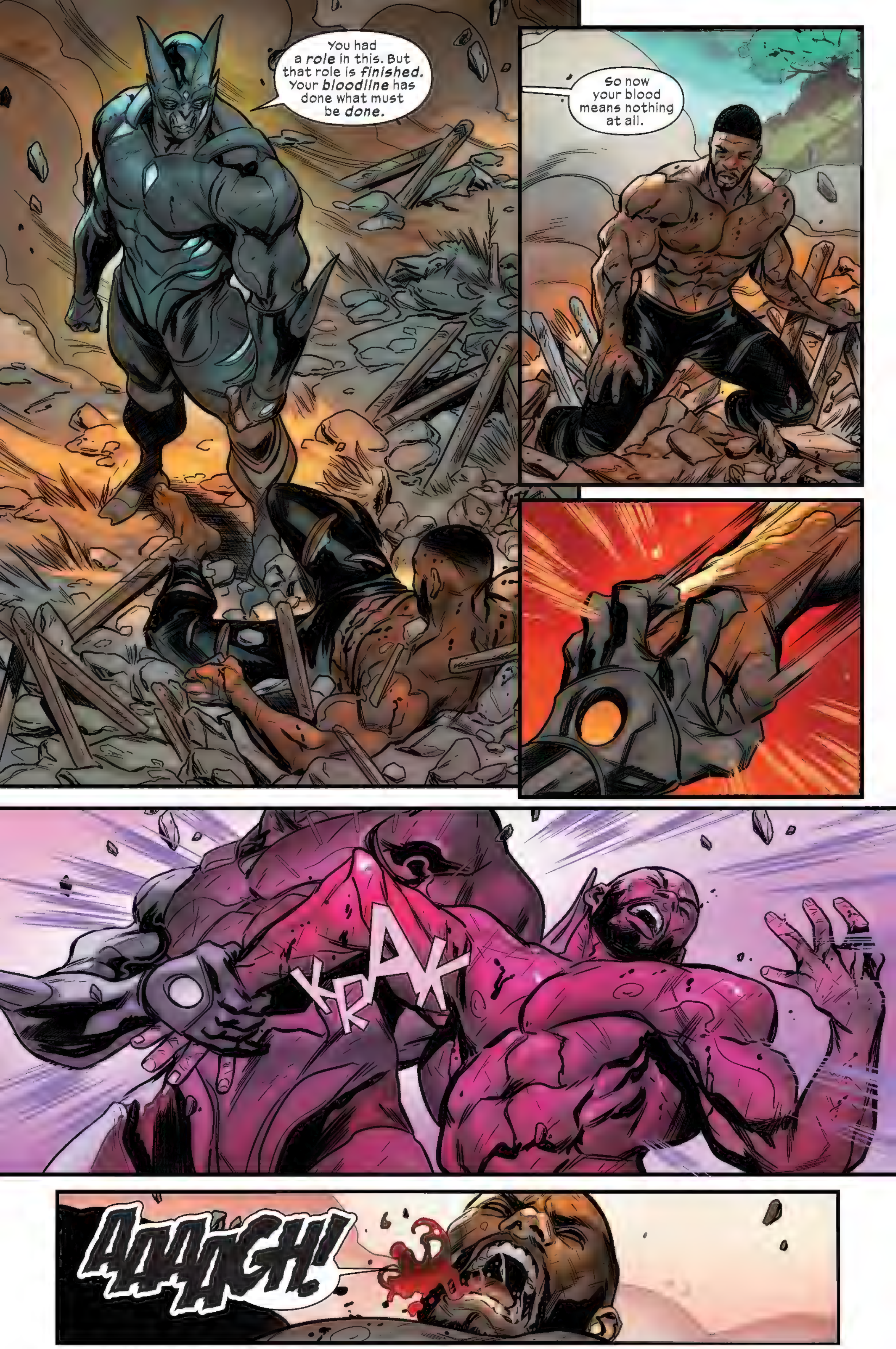

I am no stranger to pain, vagabond.
Yeah.
Figured.
AAAGH!

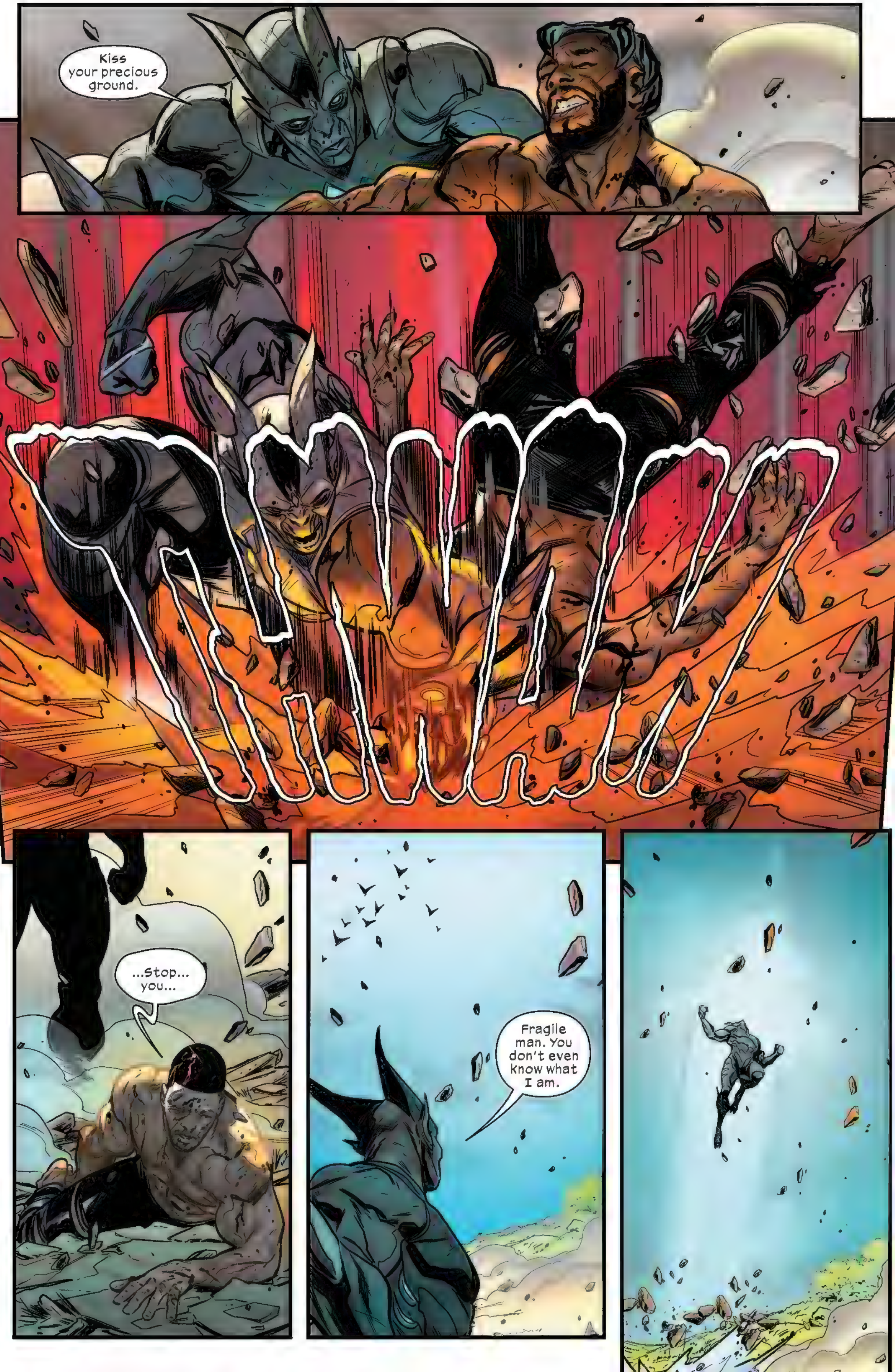

Four weeks ago.
Where is Ororo?
You cannot ask me questions. You are *nothing.* You should be on your *knees.*
WHAM

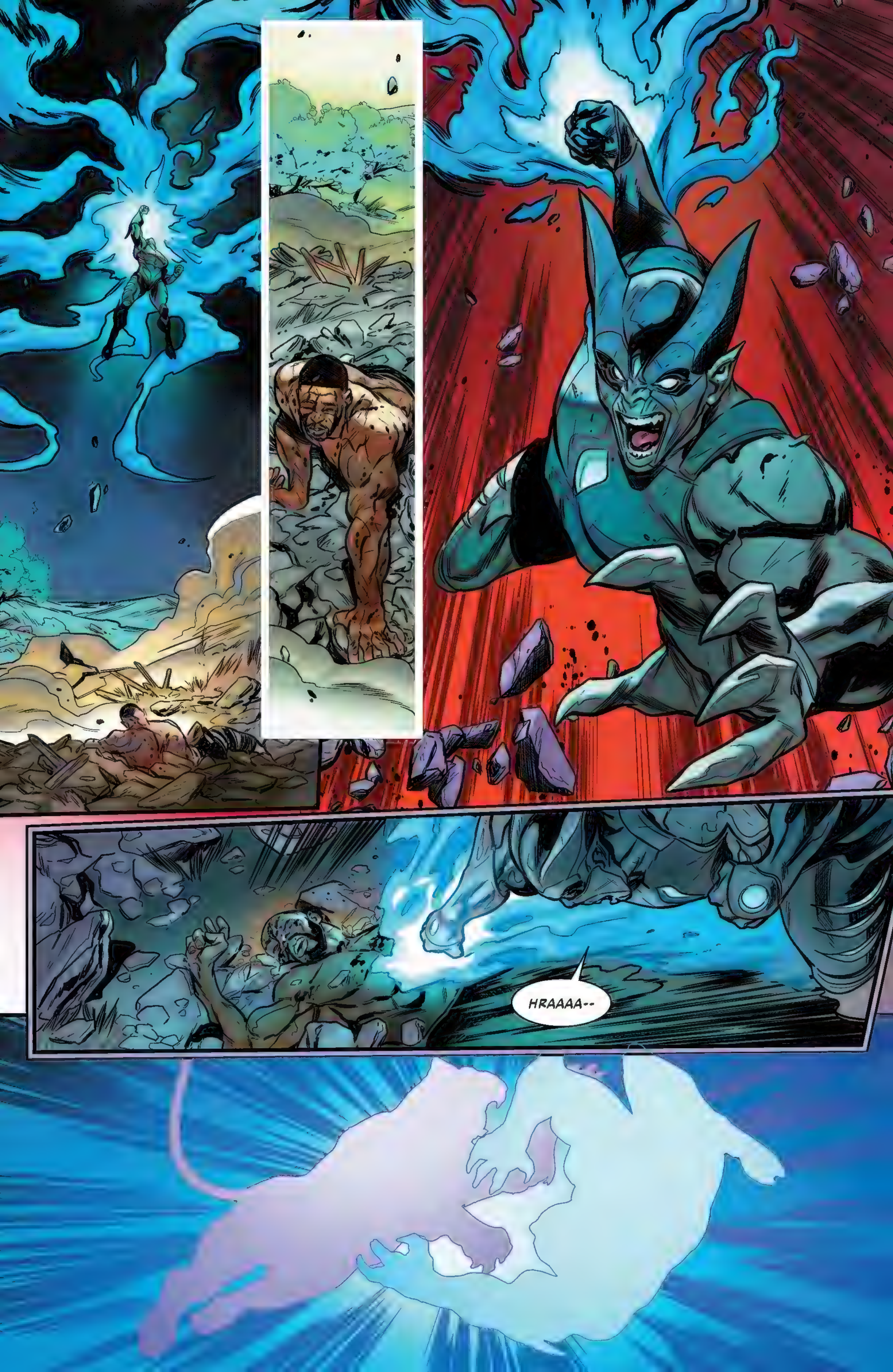

HRNGH!
KRAK
KRAK
Hruaaah!
There is a side of me...

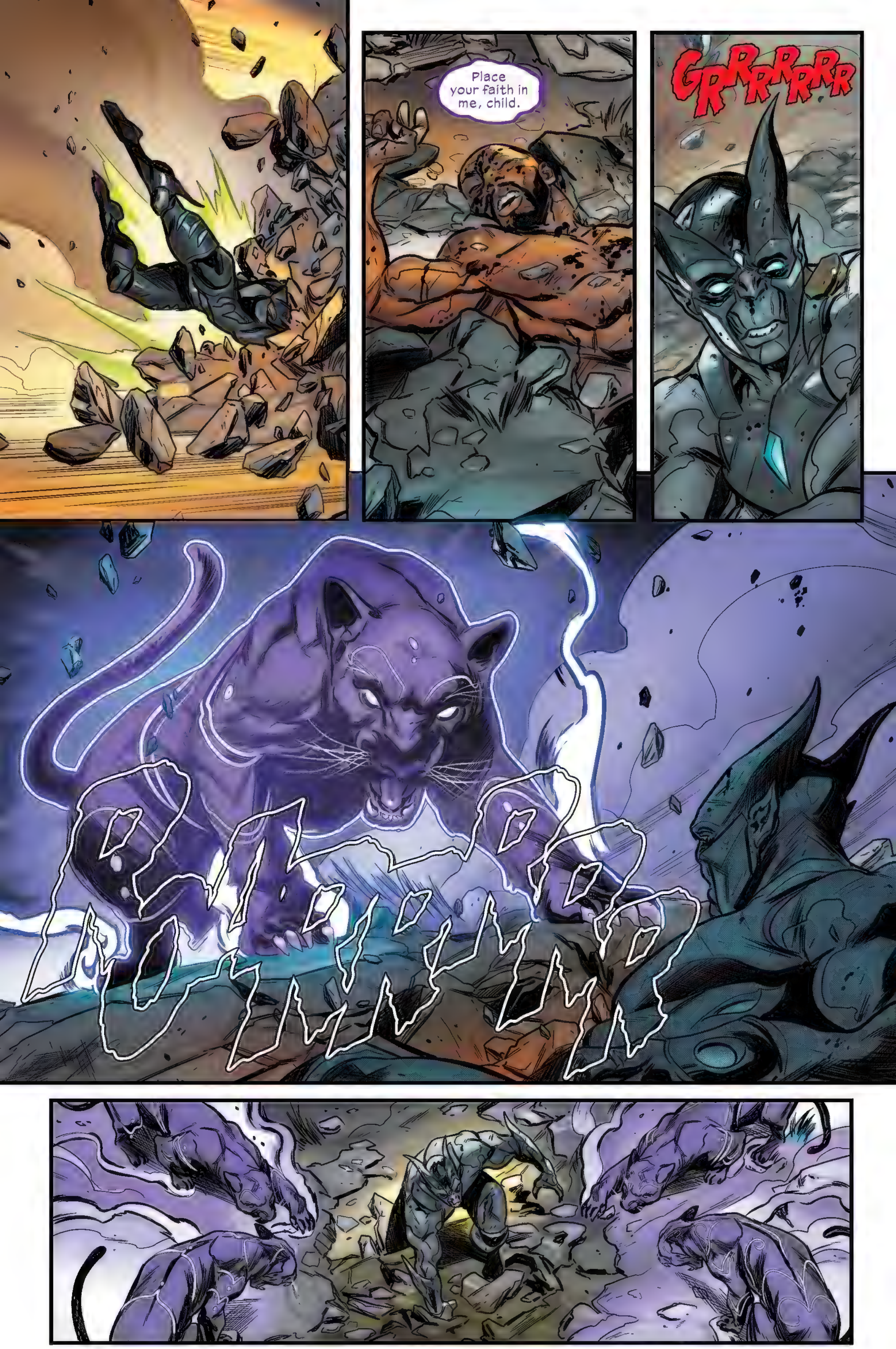

...you *don't* want to know.
Whatever you are.
Heh... heh...
HAHAHA
Gurk!
Now I will help you kneel.

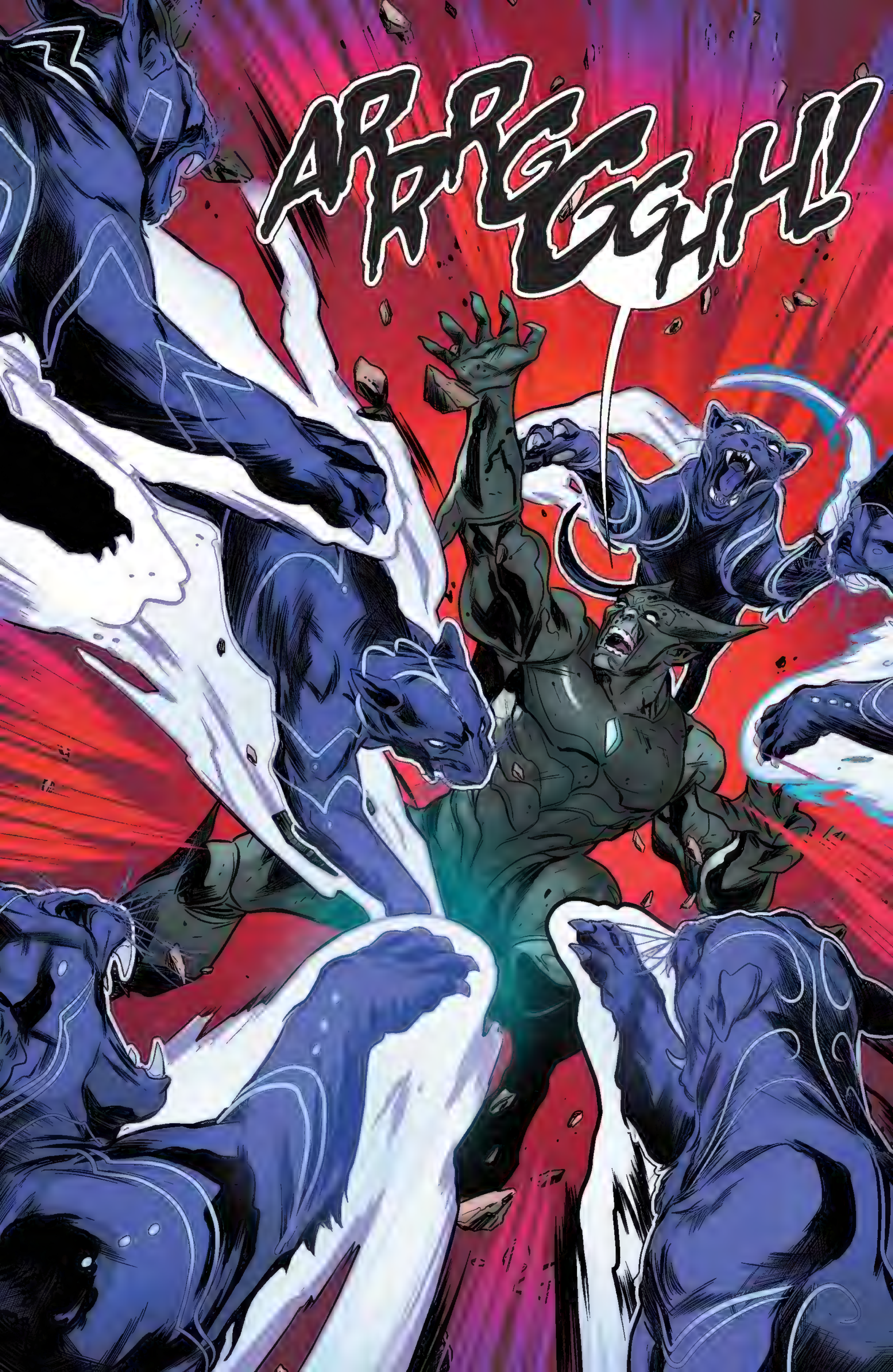

KROOOM
Gnnnhhh...
WHUMPF
CRASH

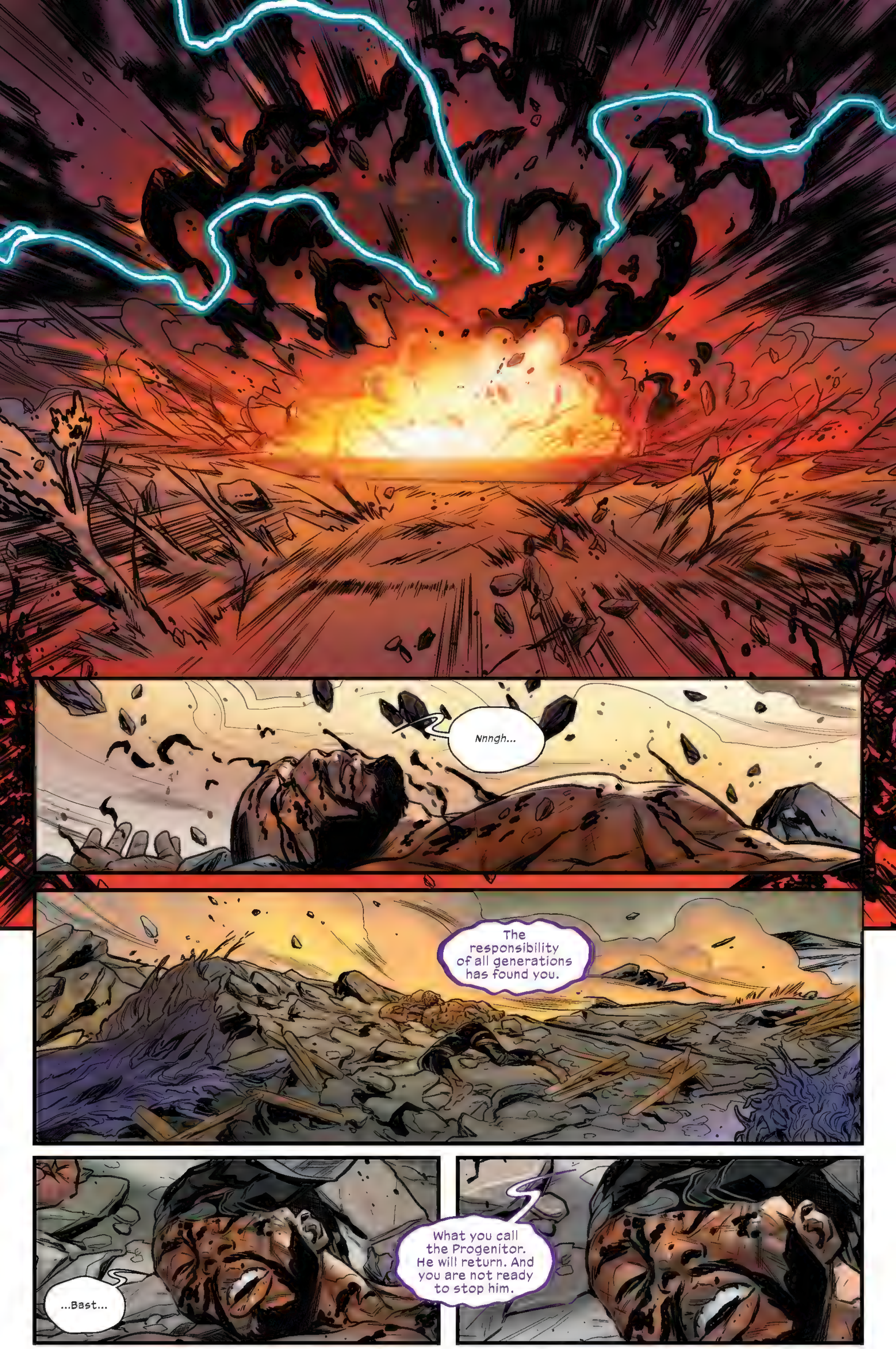

You had a *role* in this. But that role is *finished*. Your *bloodline* has done what must be *done*.
So now your blood means nothing at all.
KRAK
AAAAGH!

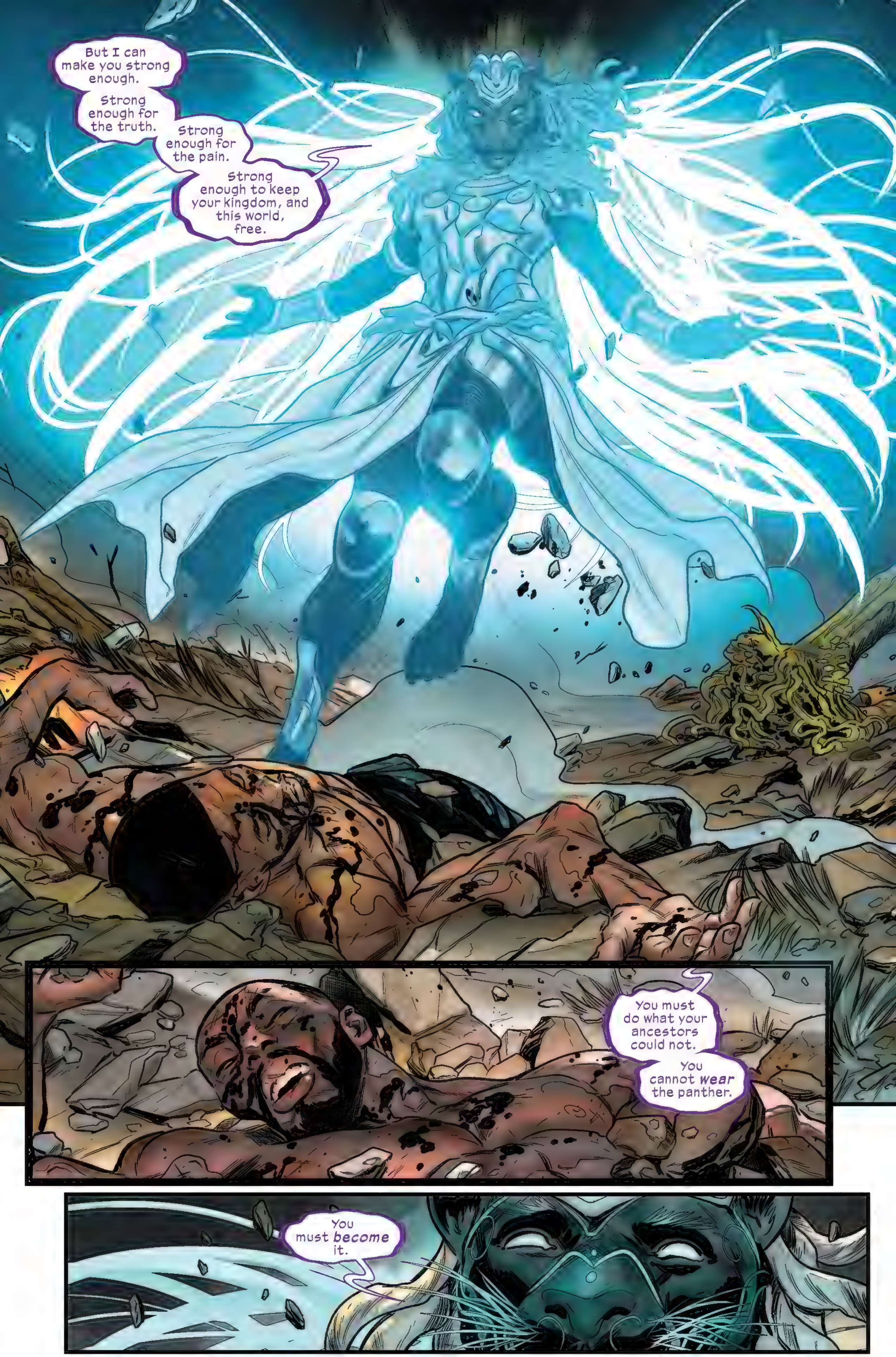

Kiss your precious ground.
...Stop... you...
Fragile man. You don't even know what I am.

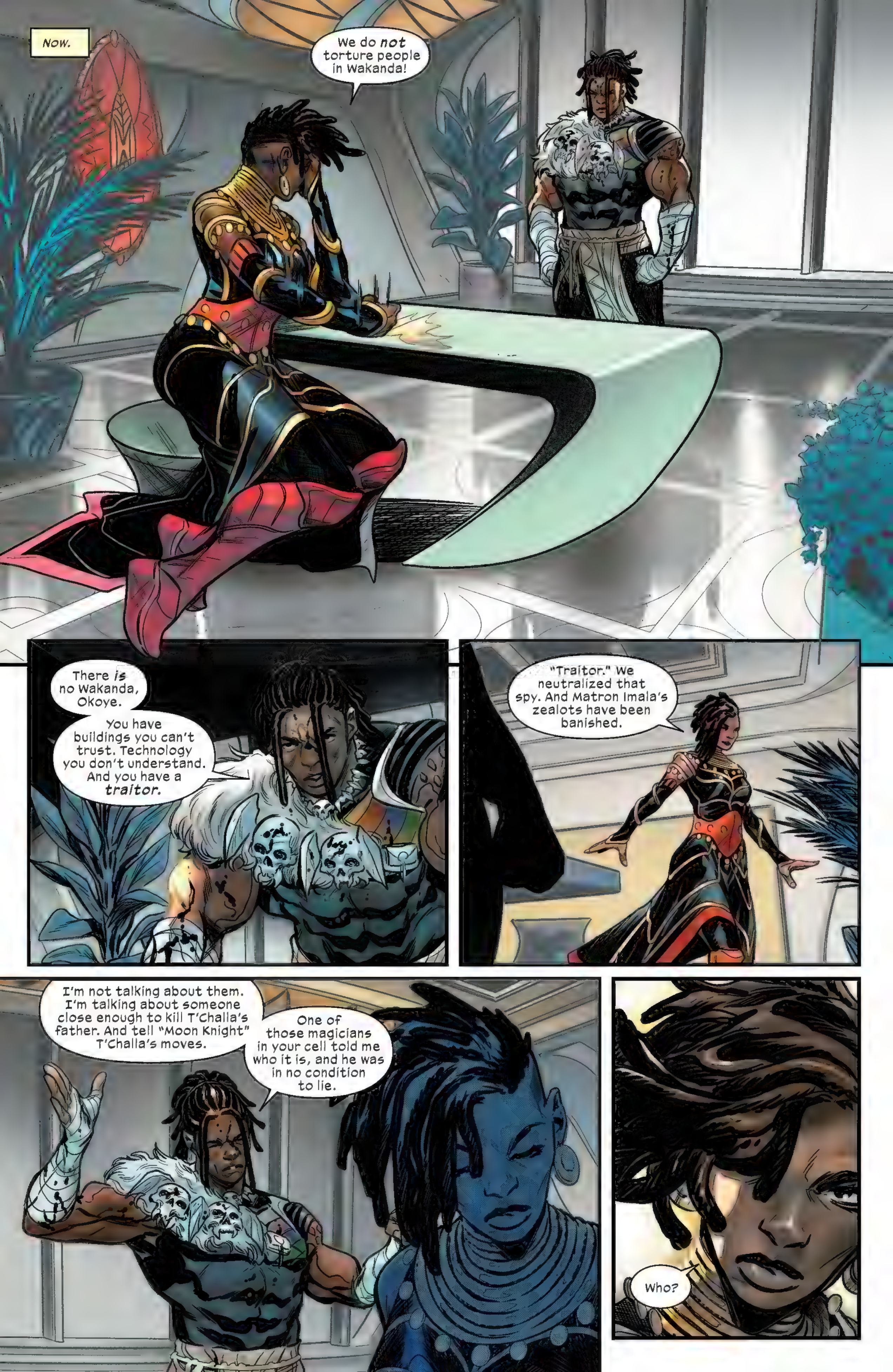

HRAAAA--

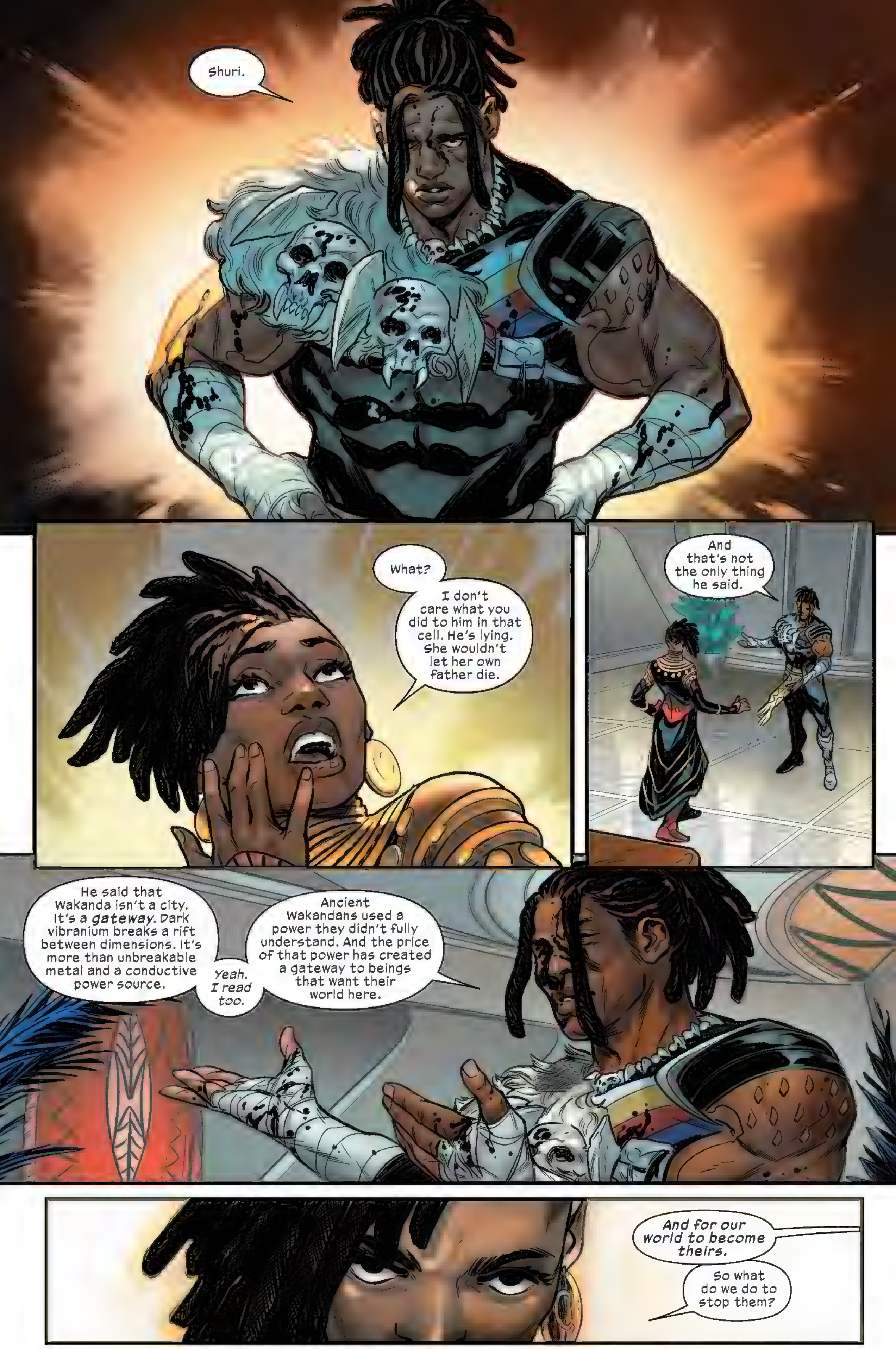

Place your faith in me, child.
GRRRRRR
ROAARRR

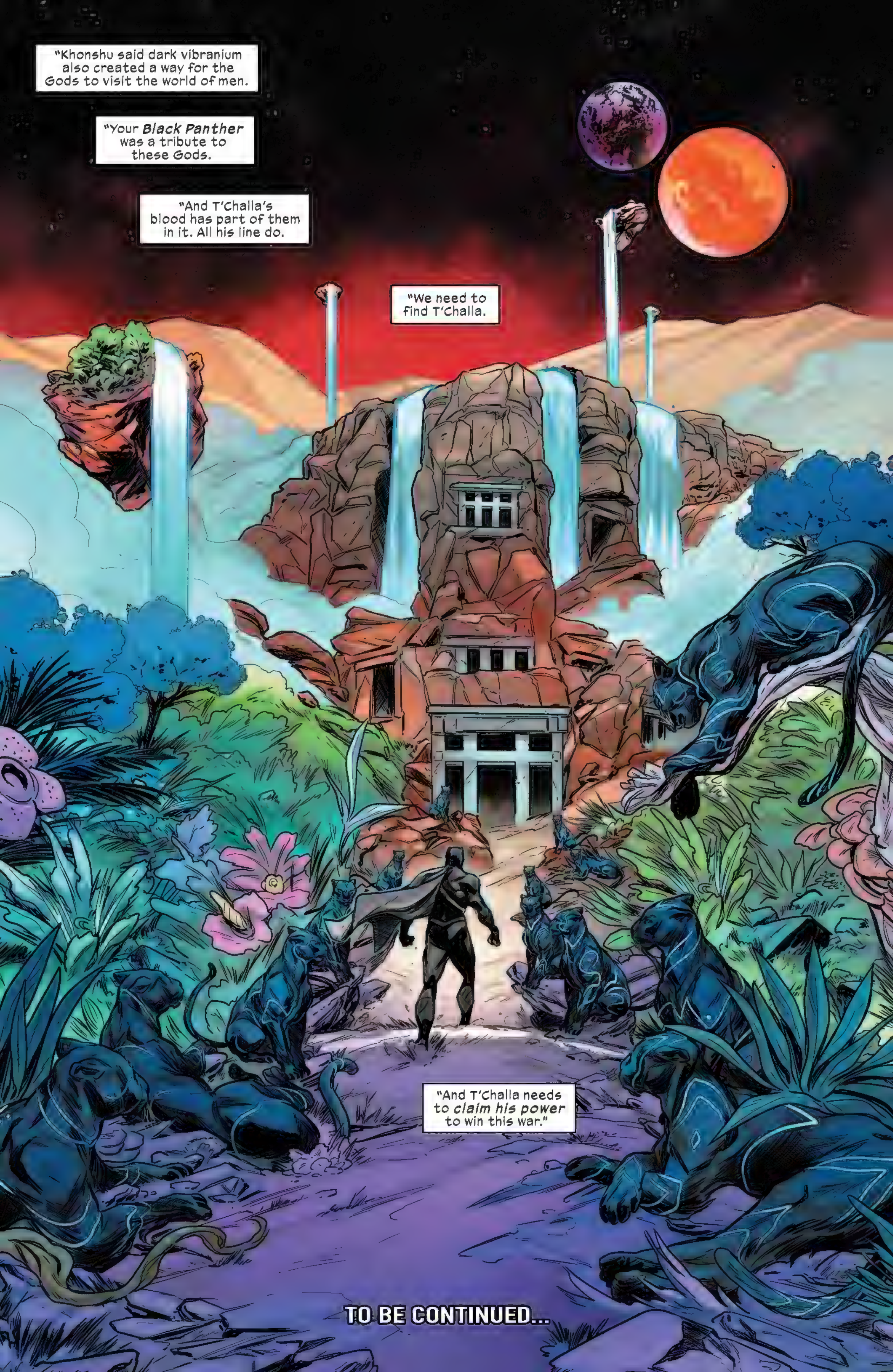

ARRRGGGHH!


Nnngh...
The responsibility of all generations has found you.
...Bast...
What you call the Progenitor. He will return. And you are not ready to stop him.


But I can make you strong enough.
Strong enough for the truth.
Strong enough for the pain.
Strong enough to keep your kingdom, and this world, free.
You must do what your ancestors could not.
You cannot *wear* the panther.
You must *become* it.


Now.
We do *not* torture people in Wakanda!
There *is* no Wakanda, Okoye.
You have buildings you can't trust. Technology you don't understand. And you have a *traitor*.
"Traitor." We neutralized that spy. And Matron Imala's zealots have been banished.
I'm not talking about them. I'm talking about someone close enough to kill T'Challa's father. And tell "Moon Knight" T'Challa's moves.
One of those magicians in your cell told me who it is, and he was in no condition to lie.
Who?


Shuri.
What?
I don't care what you did to him in that cell. He's lying. She wouldn't let her own father die.
And that's not the only thing he said.
He said that Wakanda isn't a city. It's a *gateway*. Dark vibranium breaks a rift between dimensions. It's more than unbreakable metal and a conductive power source.
Yeah. I read too.
Ancient Wakandans used a power they didn't fully understand. And the price of that power has created a gateway to beings that want their world here.
And for our world to become theirs.
So what do we do to stop them?


"Khonshu said dark vibranium also created a way for the Gods to visit the world of men.
"Your *Black Panther* was a tribute to these Gods.
"And T'Challa's blood has part of them in it. All his line do.
"We need to find T'Challa.
"And T'Challa needs to *claim his power* to win this war."
TO BE CONTINUED...

WRITER: **BRYAN HILL**
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ULTIMATE
BLACK PANTHER
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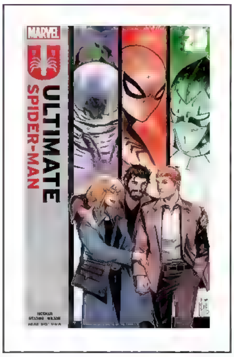
HILL CASELLI CURIEL

ON SALE IN **SEPTEMBER**

ON SALE THIS MONTH



ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN #20

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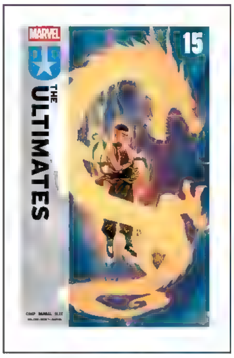
& **DAVID MESSINA**

ULTIMATE X-MEN #18

BY **PEACH MOMOKO**



ULTIMATES #15

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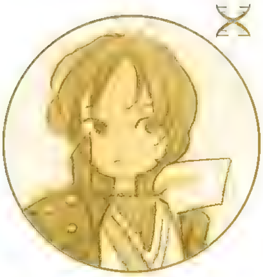
A diabolical genius known as **THE MAKER** used time travel to create his ideal Earth by systematically preventing anyone from ever becoming a super hero—except for those on his secret **MAKER'S COUNCIL**, whom he stationed to rule over different regions of the world.

HI NO KUNI ("LAND OF THE SUN") became one of two hotbeds for mutant activity, but civilians were unaware until social media exploded with the story of **CHILDREN OF THE ATOM**, a cult for mutant youth led by a zealot known as **MAESTER**, after **KANON SAINOUCHI** and her police officer brother, **TATSUYA**, found a suitcase containing a body.

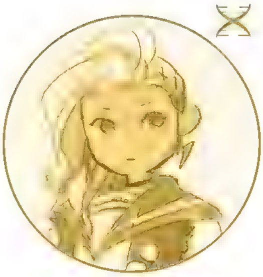
Following **NICO MINORU'S** discovery of **HISAKO ICHIKI (ARMOR)'S** captivity by the Children of Atom, **MEI IGARASHI (MAYSTORM)** and her group of masked **X-MEN** infiltrated the cult's hideout to rescue them. Though the team freed Hisako, she chose to climb inside **AKIHIRO**, the source of the cult's mutant abilities, to face **SHINOBU KAGEYAMA (SHADOW KING)**...

ULTIMATE X-MEN

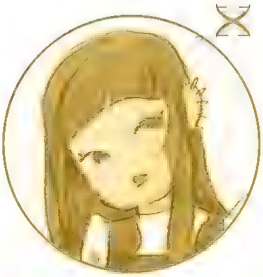
CAST:



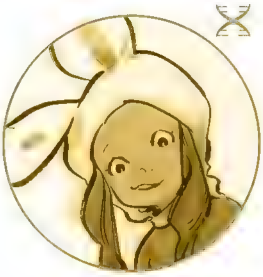
HISAKO ICHIKI
ARMOR



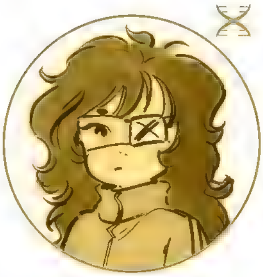
MEI IGARASHI
MAYSTORM



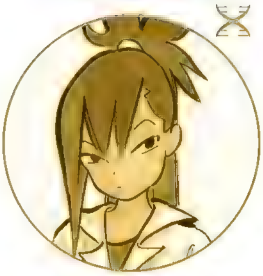
NICO MINORU
FLEDGLING PSYCHIC



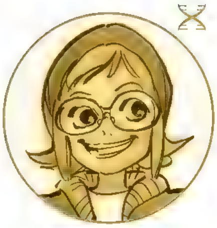
MORI
NICO'S FRIEND



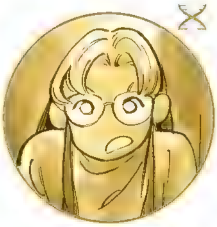
NATSU TSUKISHIMA
NICO'S FRIEND



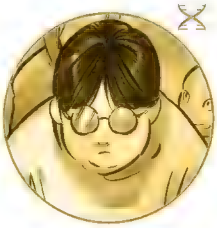
KANON SAINOUCHI
PSYLOCKE



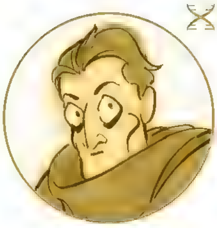
YUKIO
STREAMER KNOWN
AS "CHIMAME"



FUTABA
TATSUYA'S EX
AND ALLY

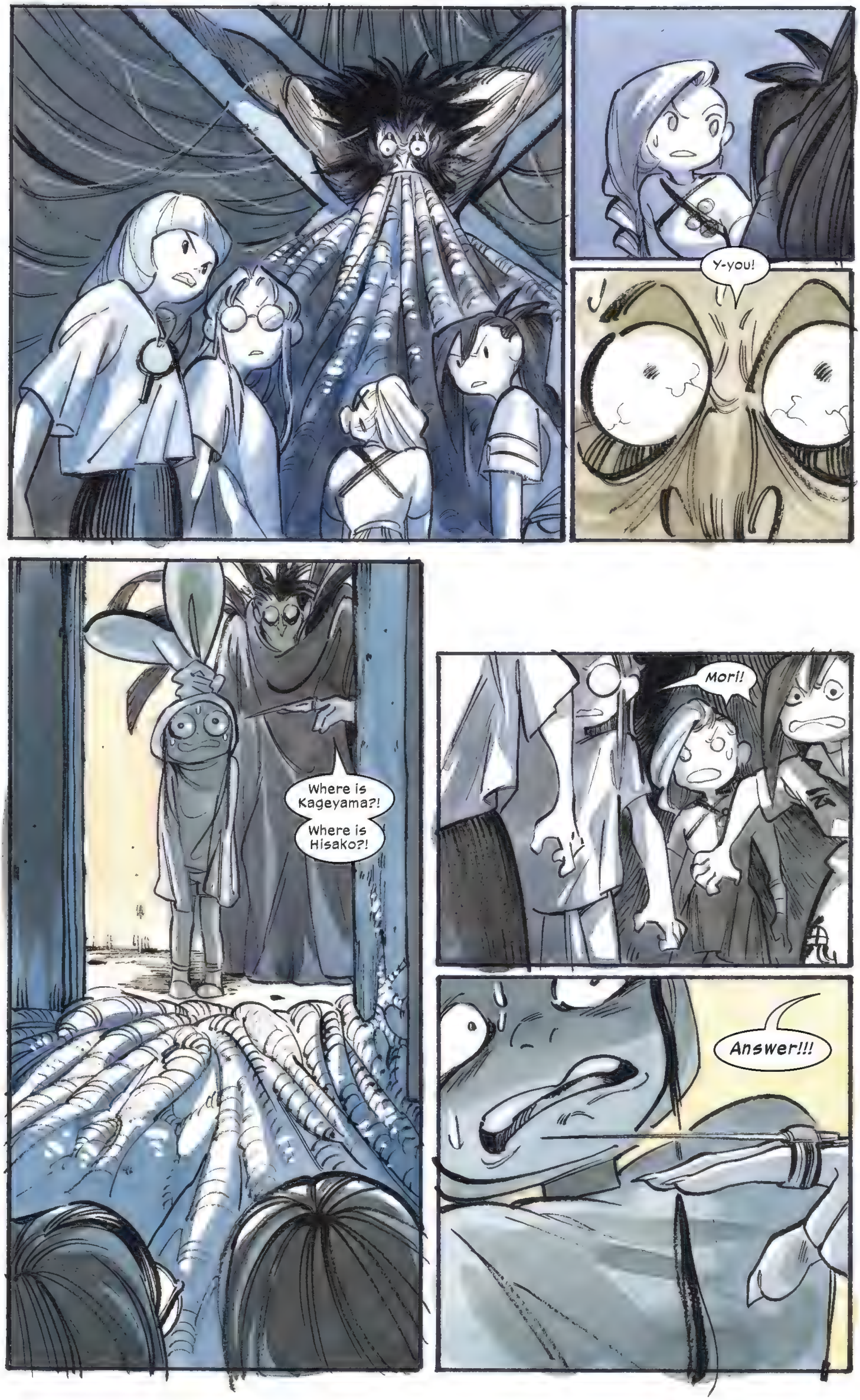


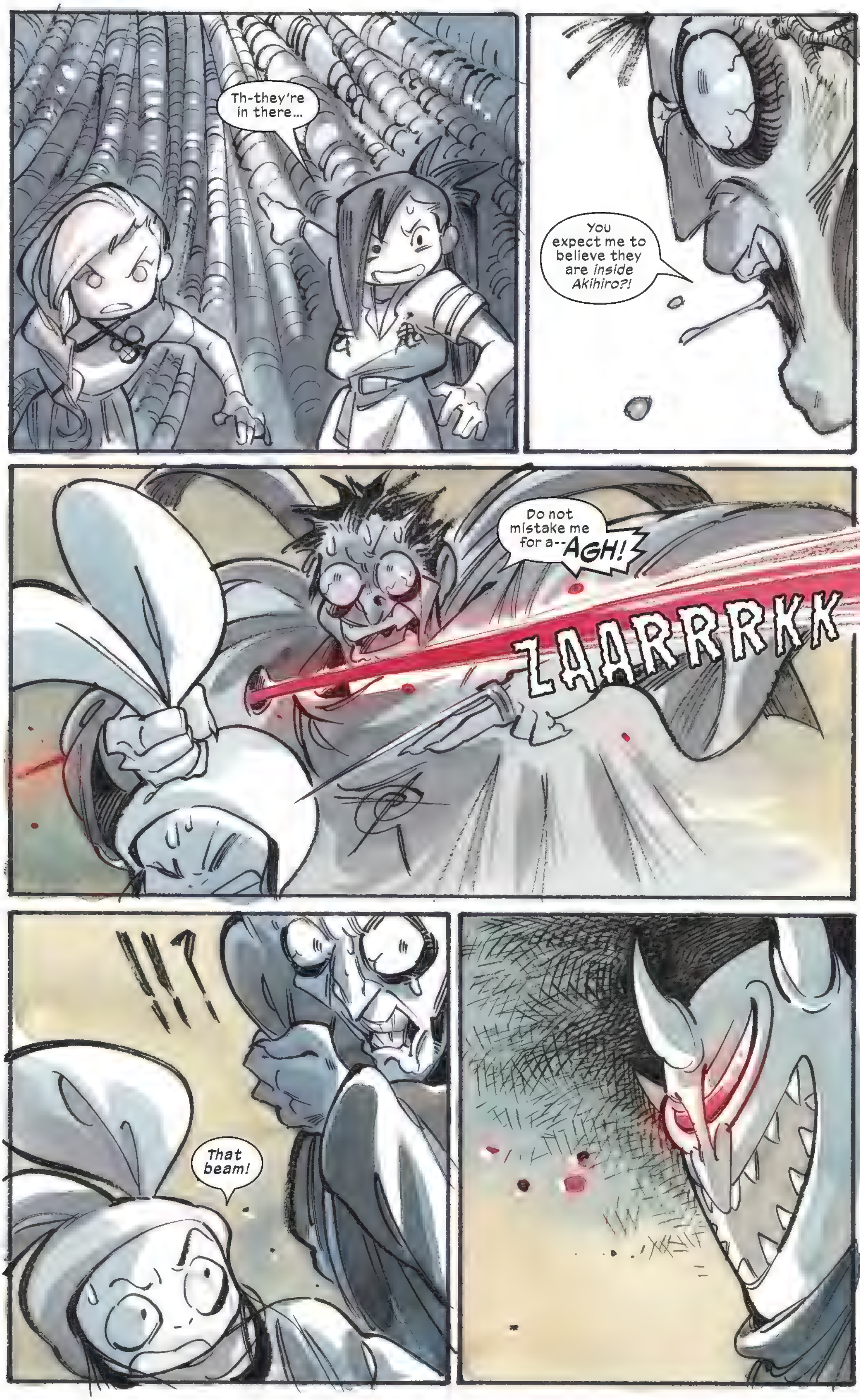
SHINOBU KAGEYAMA
SHADOW KING

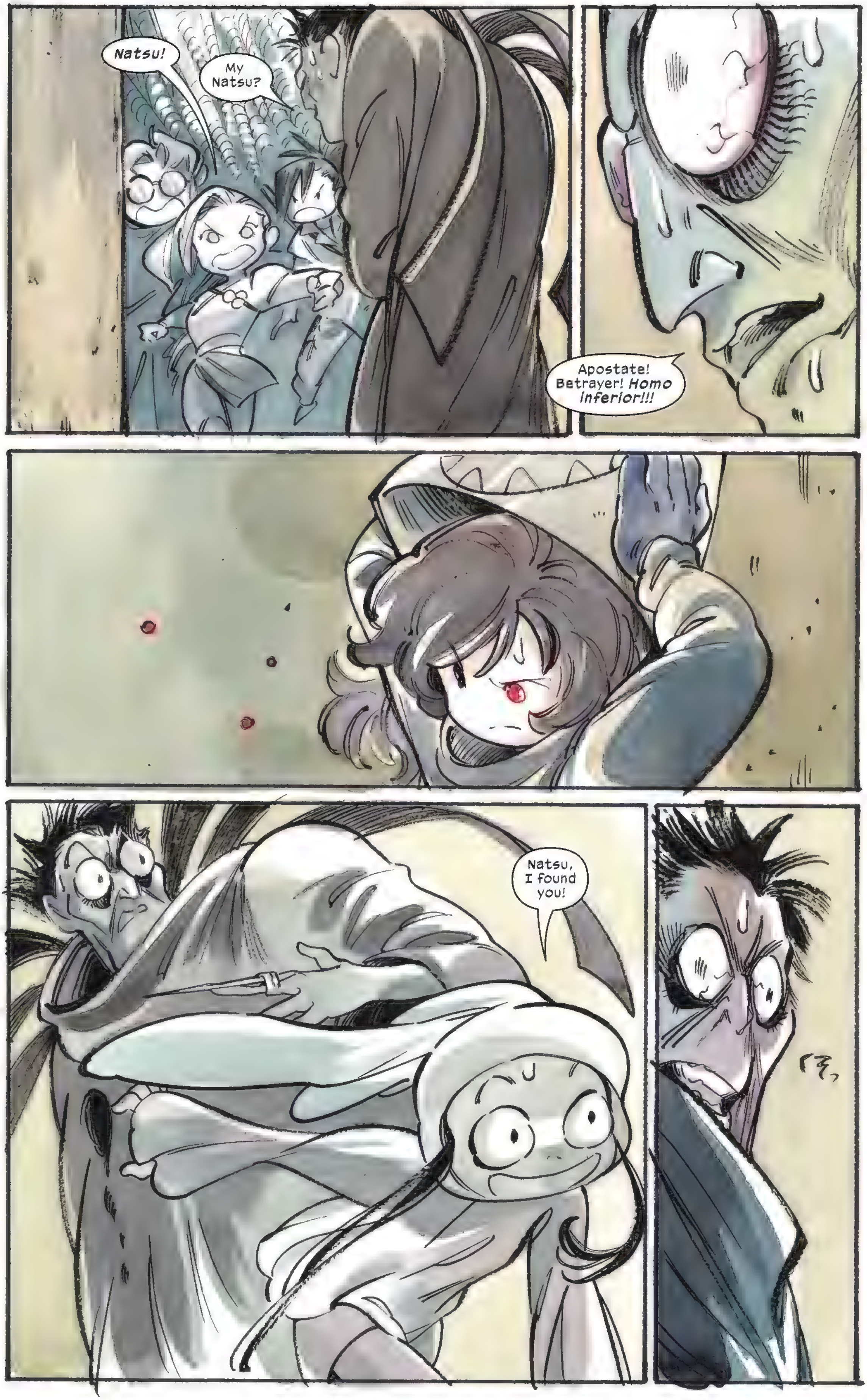


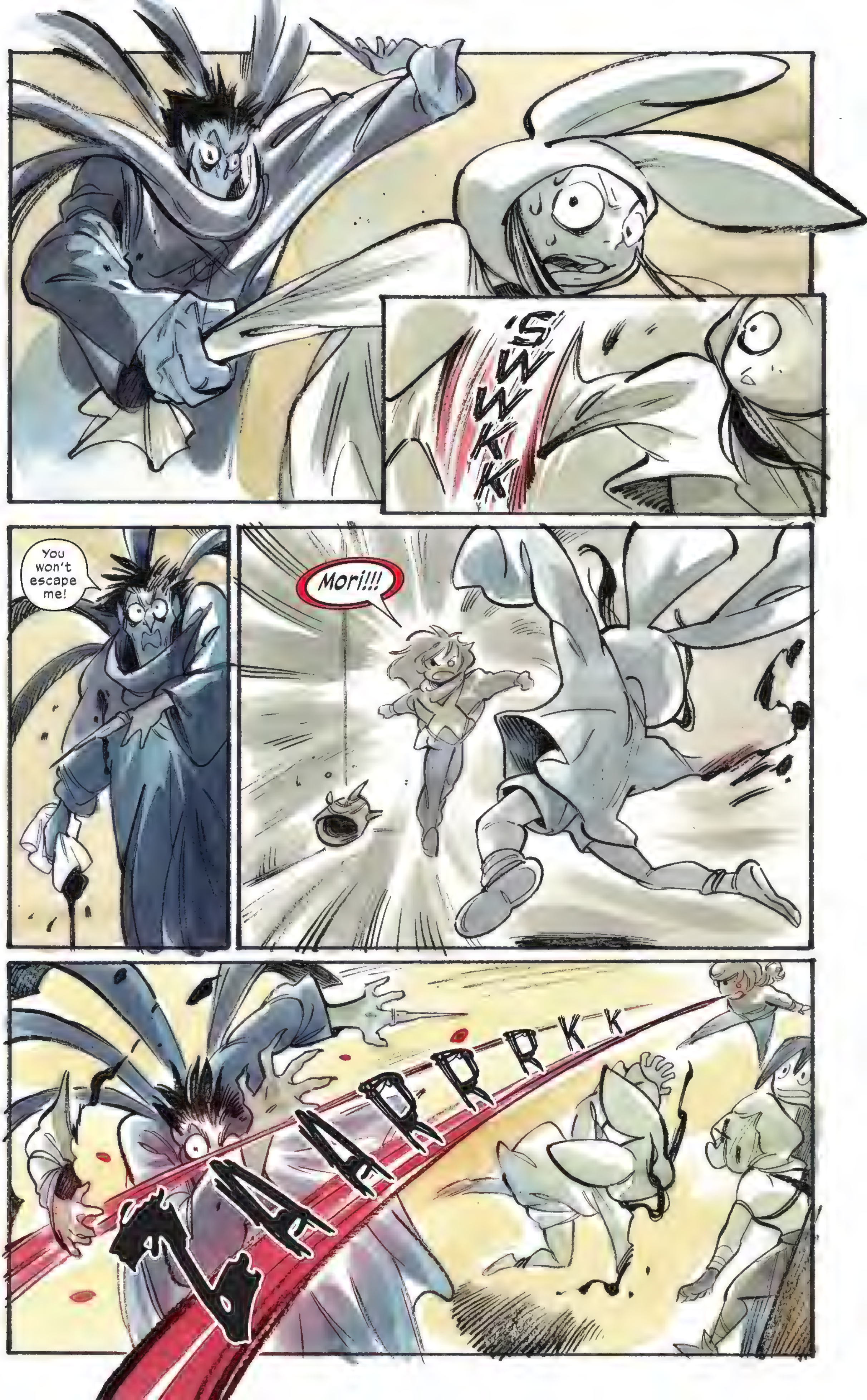
MAESTER
CHILDREN OF
THE ATOM LEADER

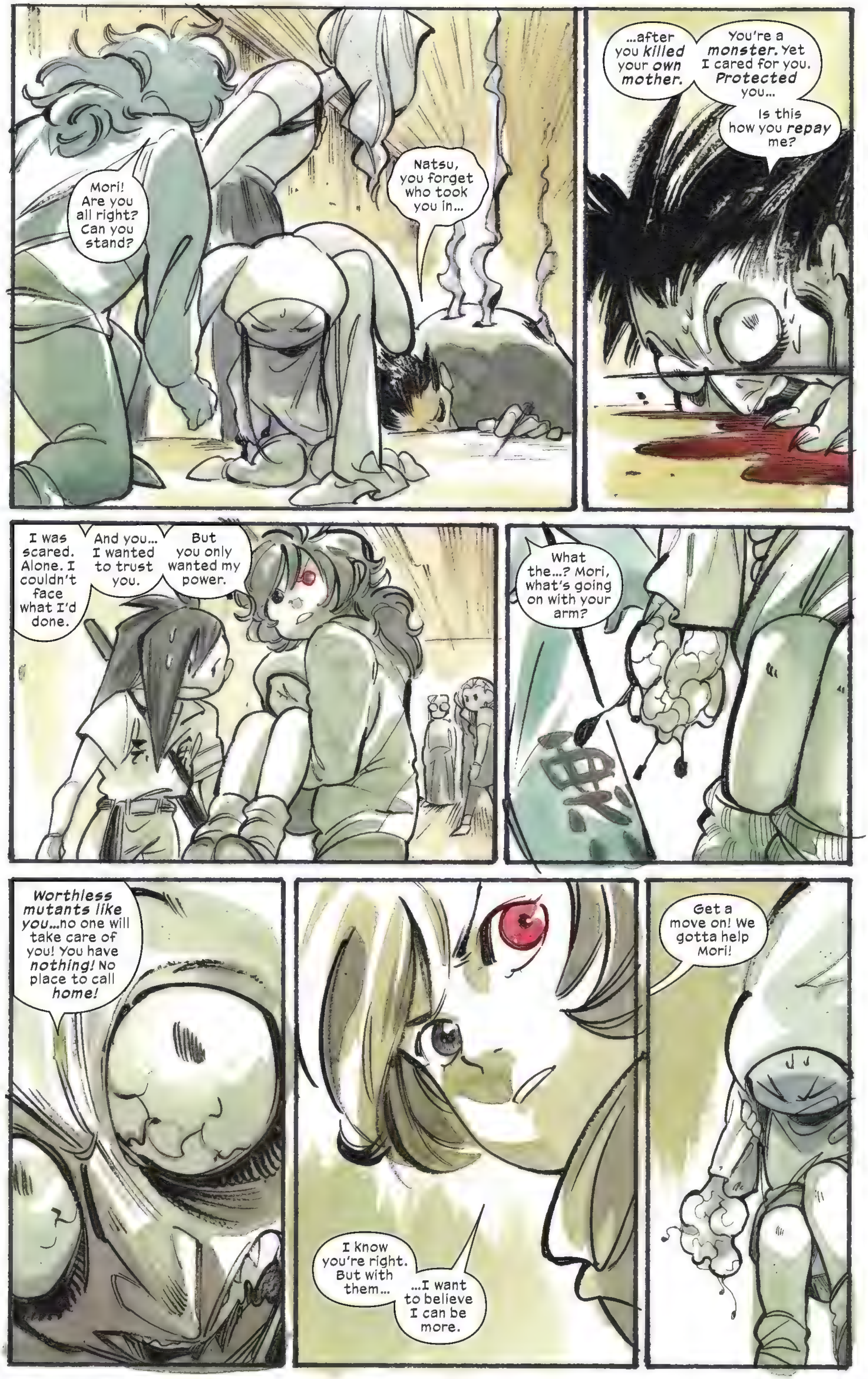
AUGUST 2025

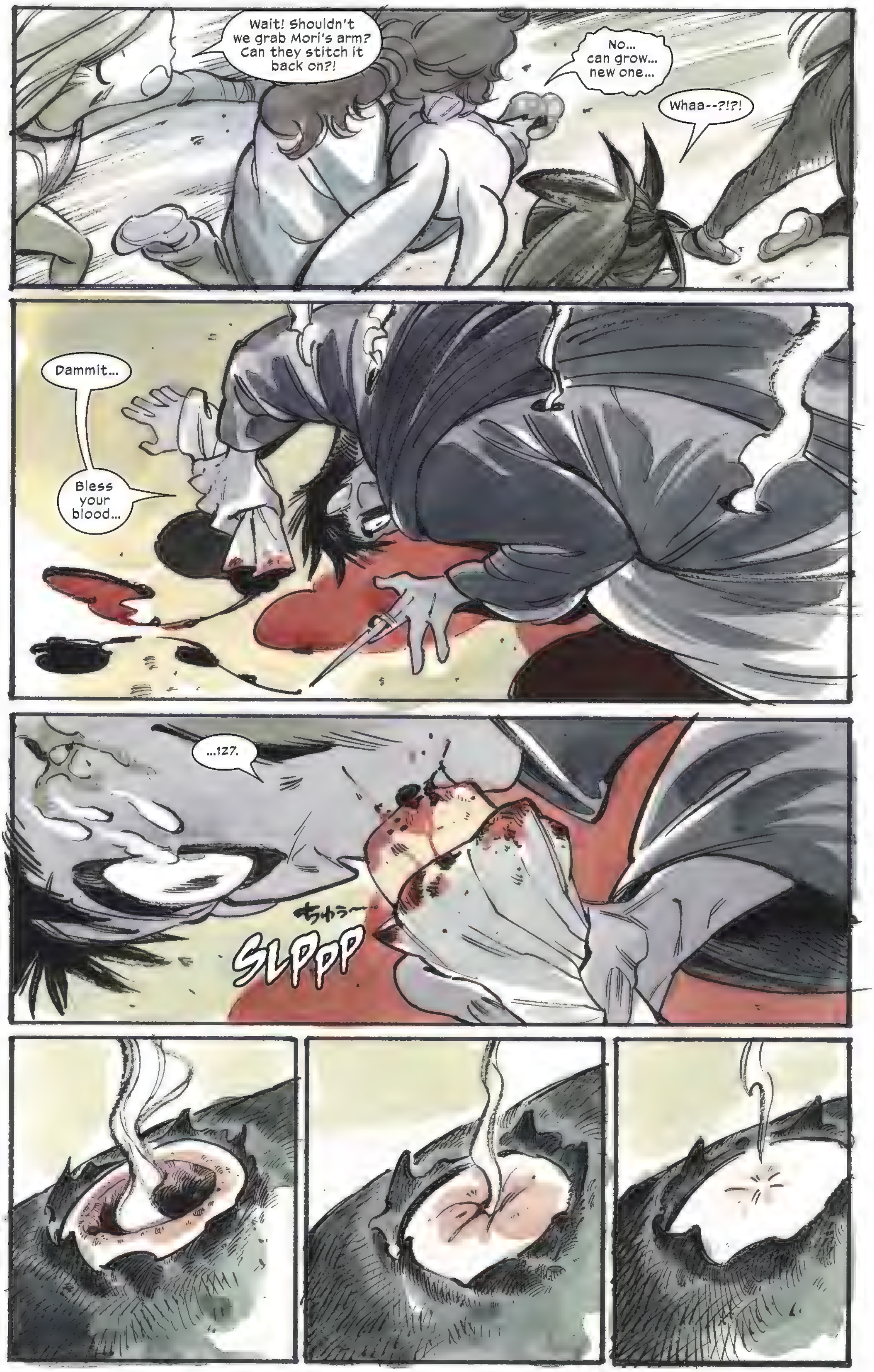

Y-you!
Where is Kageyama?!
Where is Hisako?!
Mori!
Answer!!!

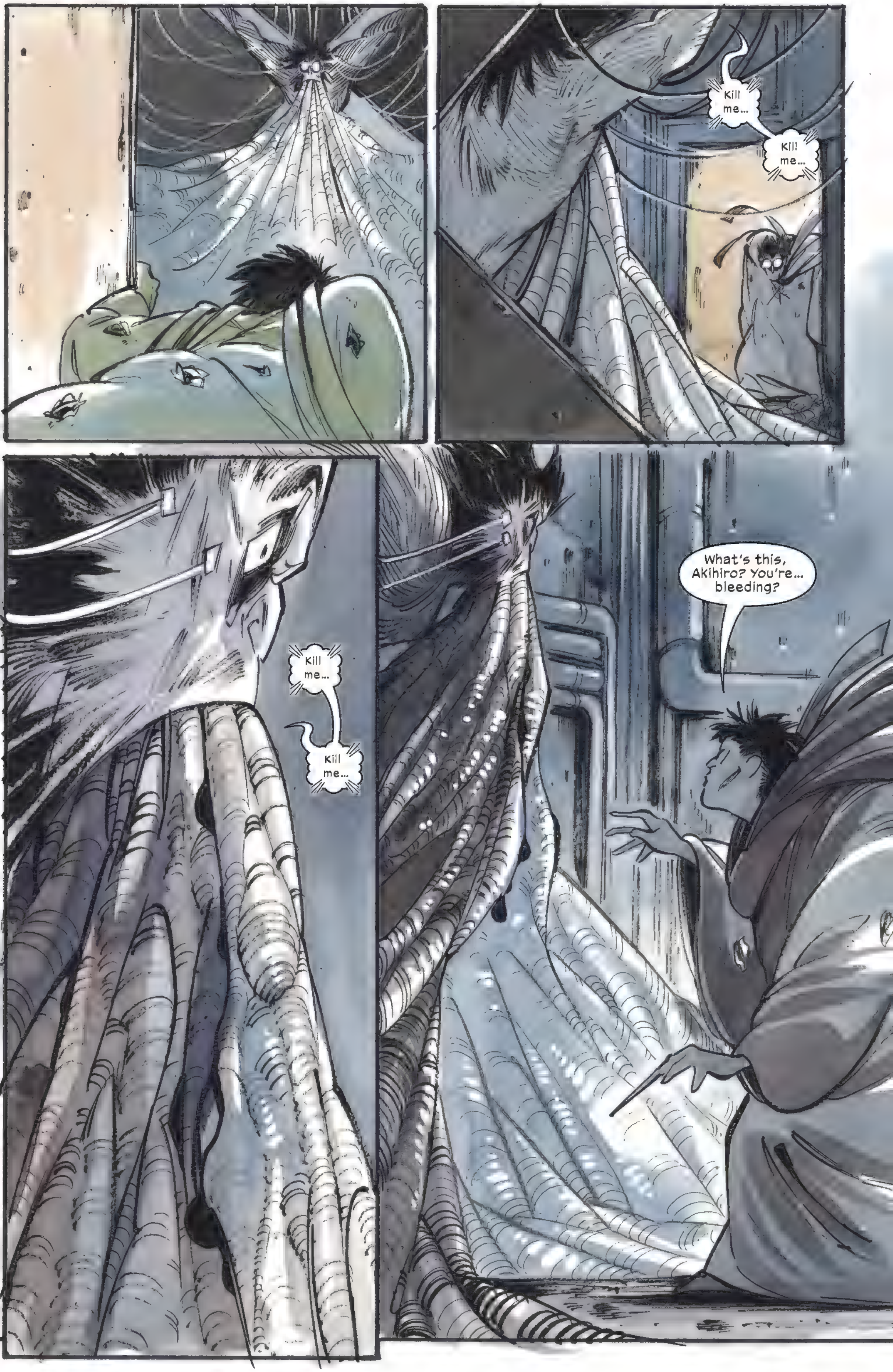

Th-they're in there...
You expect me to believe they are *inside* Akihiro?!
Do not mistake me for a--AGH!
ZAARRRRKK
That beam!

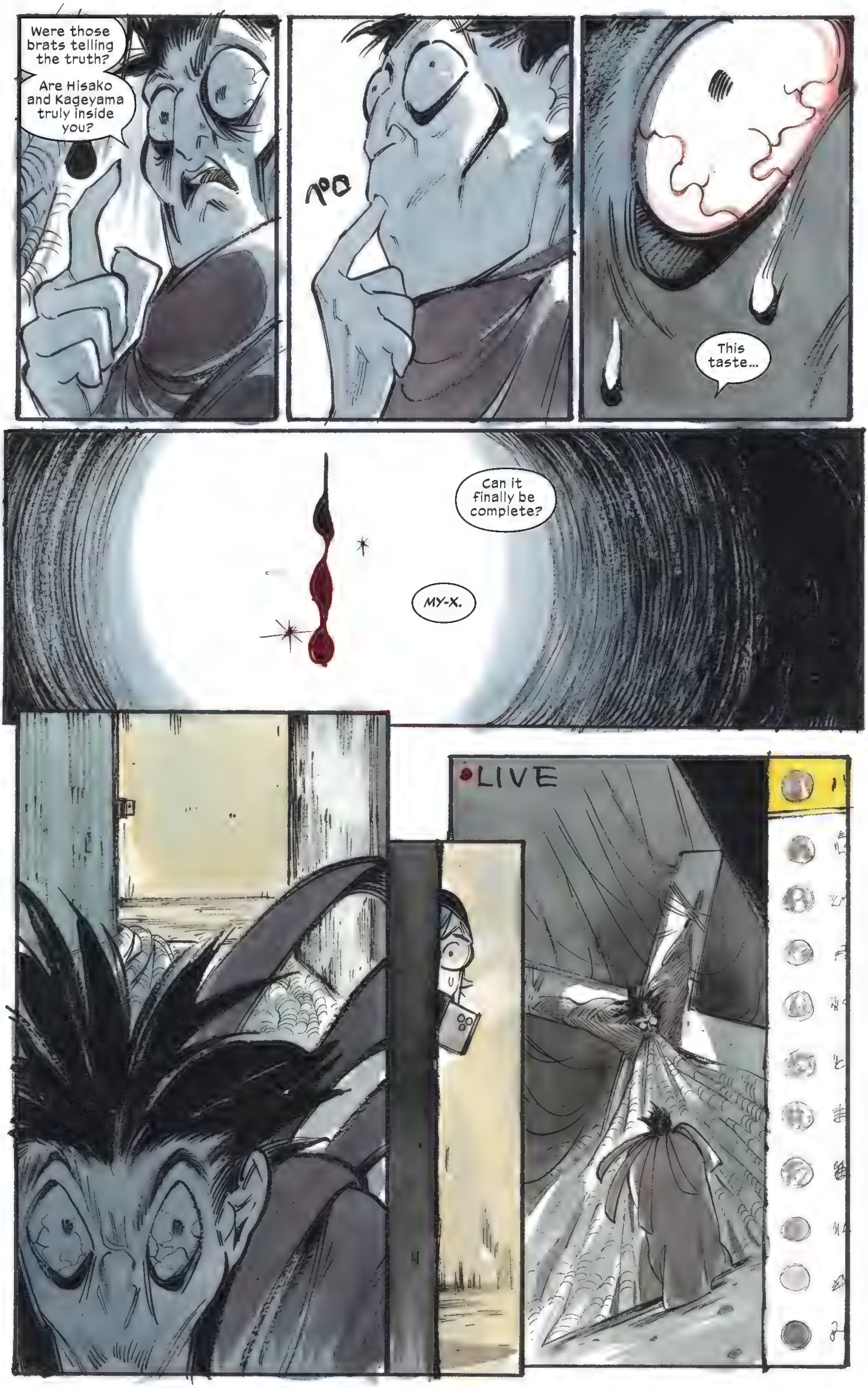

Natsu!
My Natsu?
Apostate! Betrayer! *Homo inferior!!!*
Natsu, I found you!
くそっ

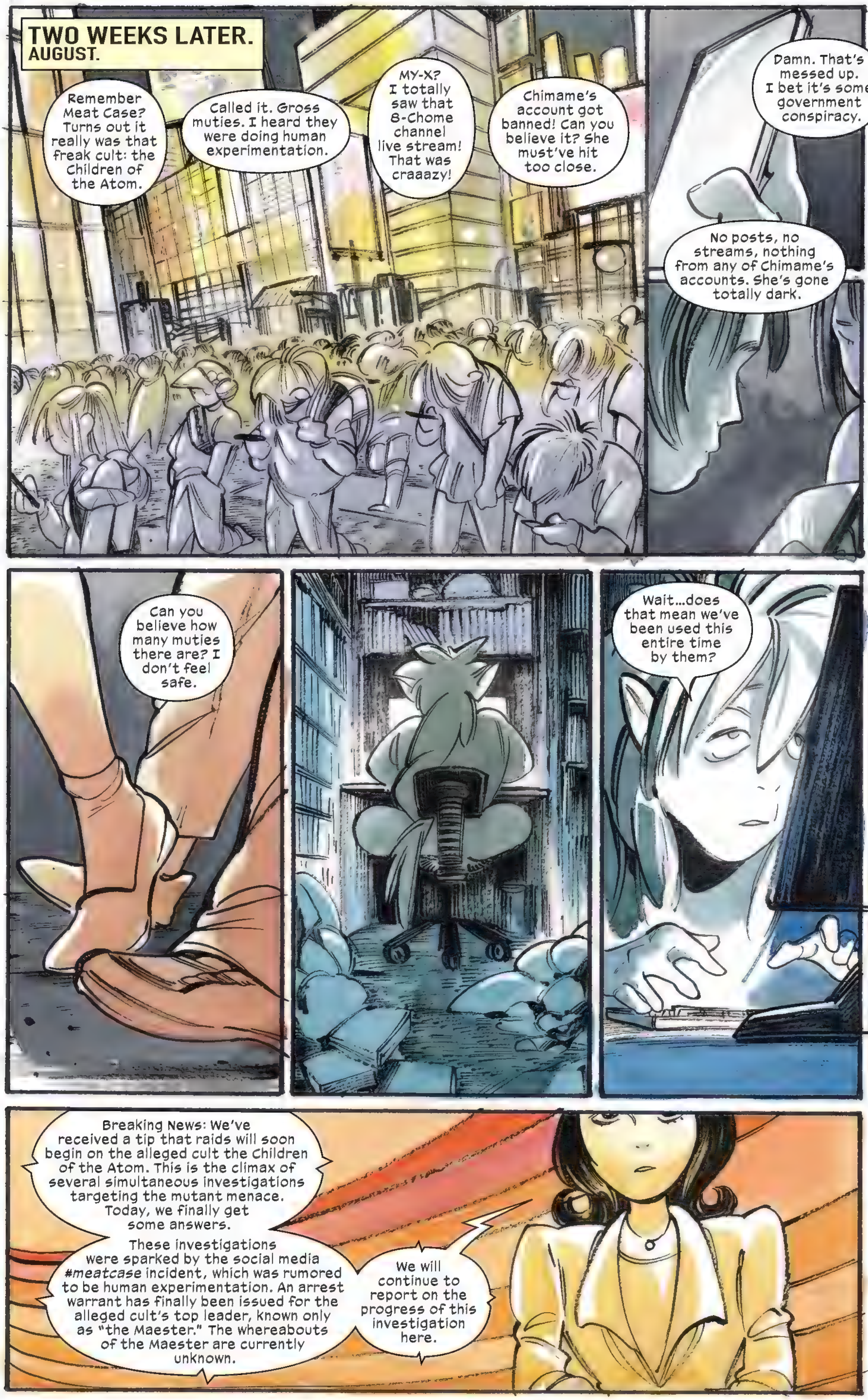

SWWKK
You won't escape me!
Mori!!!
ZAARRRKK

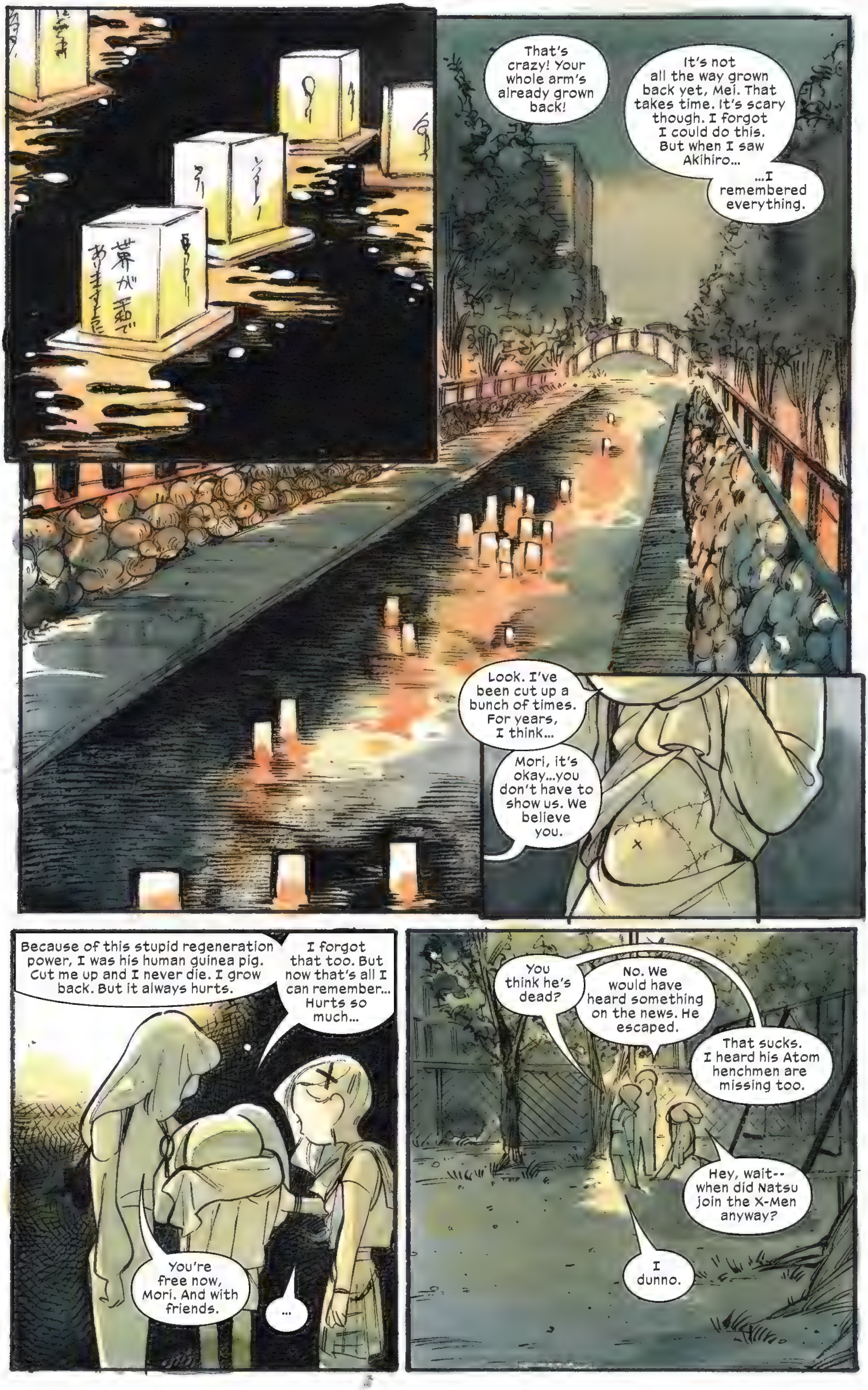

Mori! Are you all right? Can you stand?
Natsu, you forget who took you in...
...after you *killed* your *own mother.*
You're a *monster.* Yet I cared for you. *Protected* you...
Is this how you *repay* me?
I was scared. Alone. I couldn't face what I'd done.
And you... I wanted to trust you.
But you only wanted my power.
What the...? Mori, what's going on with your arm?
Worthless mutants like you...no one will take care of you! You have *nothing!* No place to call *home!*
I know you're right. But with them...
...I want to believe I can be more.
Get a move on! We gotta help Mori!

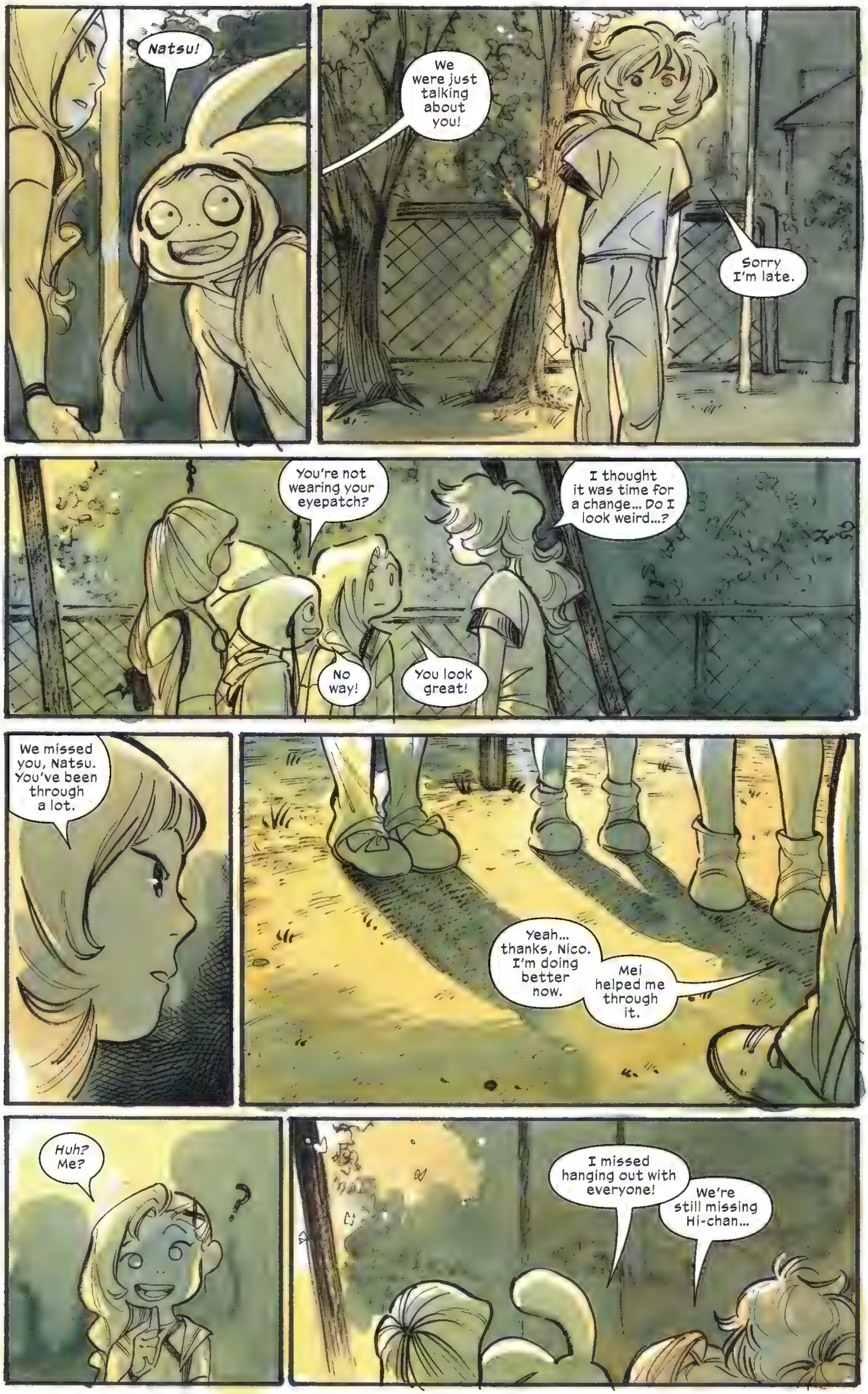

Wait! Shouldn't we grab Mori's arm? Can they stitch it back on?!
No... can grow... new one...
Whaa--?!?!
Dammit...
Bless your blood...
...127.
ちゅる〜
SLPPP

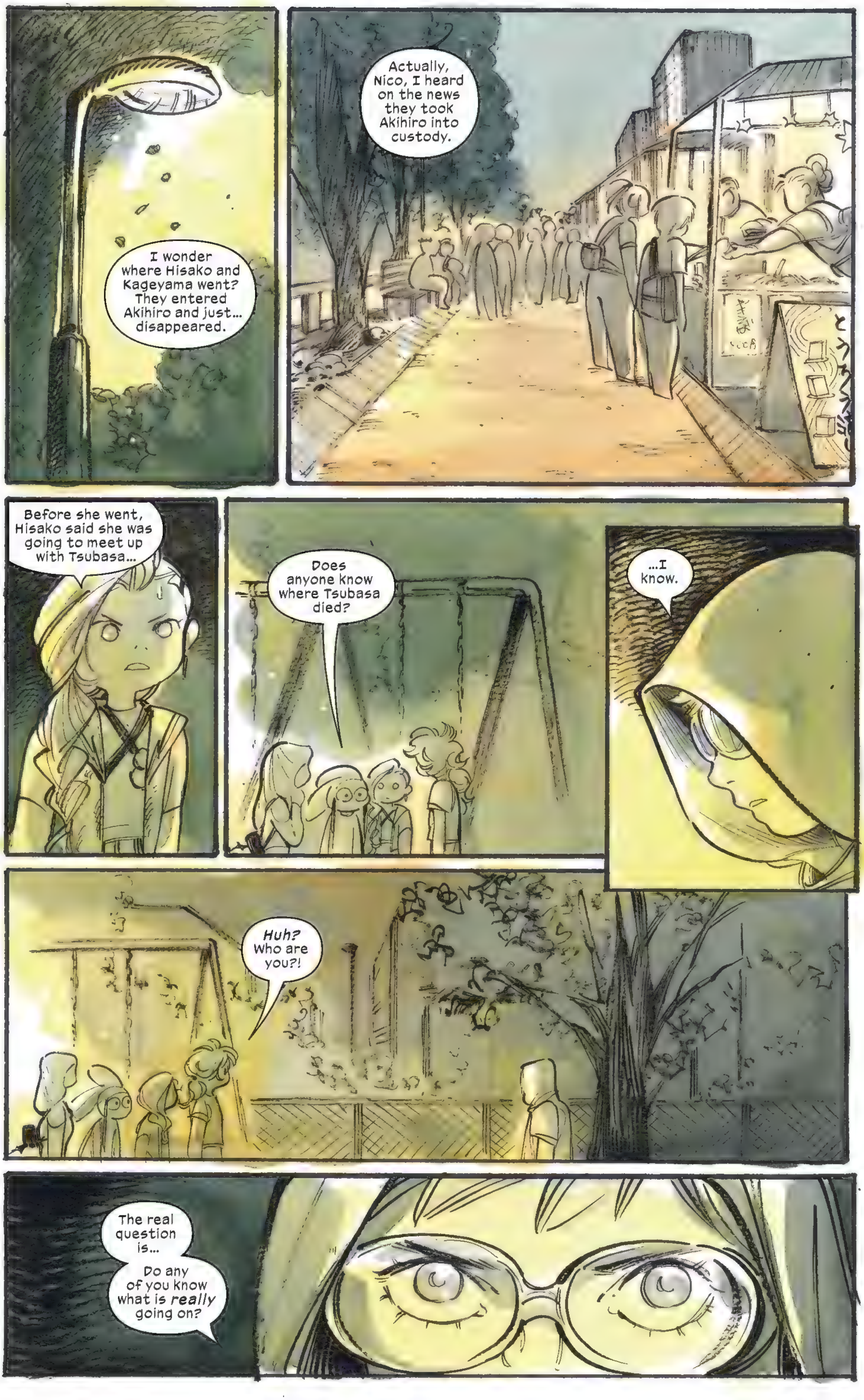

Kill me...
Kill me...
Kill me...
Kill me...
What's this, Akihiro? You're... bleeding?

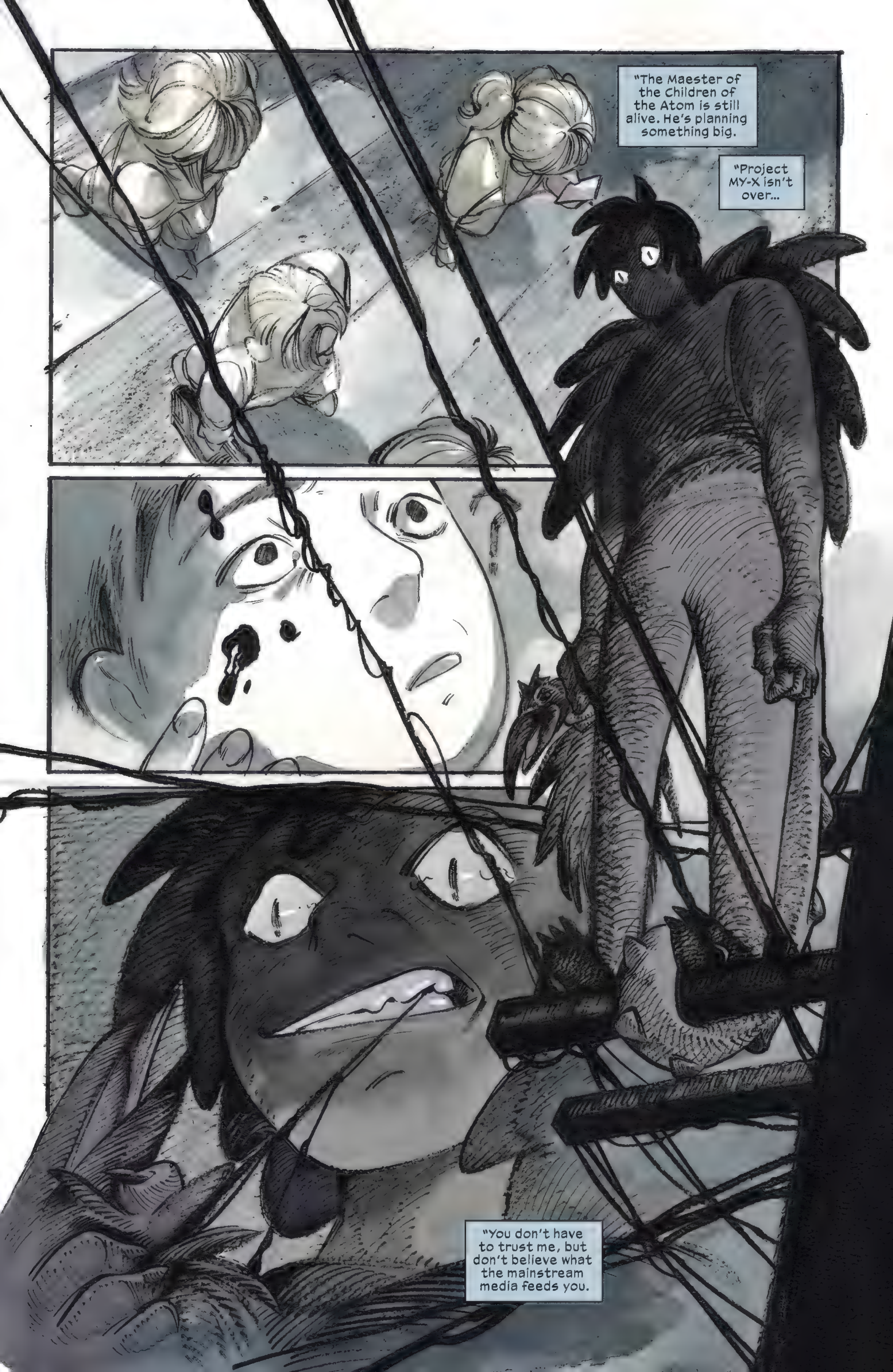

Were those brats telling the truth?
Are Hisako and Kageyama truly inside you?
ペロ
This taste...
Can it finally be complete?
MY-X.
LIVE

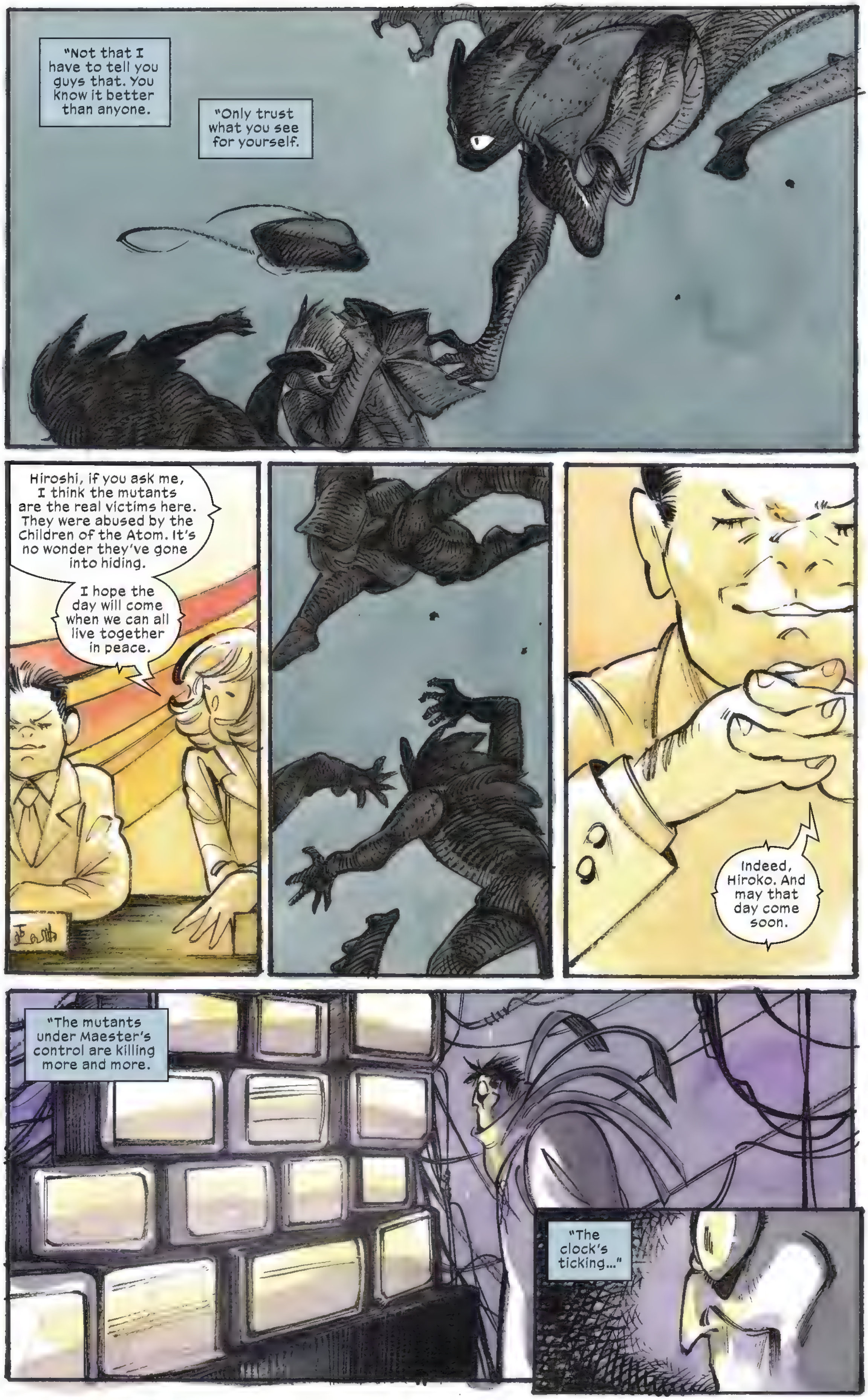

TWO WEEKS LATER. AUGUST.
Remember Meat Case? Turns out it really was that freak cult: the Children of the Atom.
Called it. Gross muties. I heard they were doing human experimentation.
MY-X? I totally saw that 8-Chome channel live stream! That was craaazy!
Chimame's account got banned! Can you believe it? She must've hit too close.
Damn. That's messed up. I bet it's some government conspiracy.
No posts, no streams, nothing from any of Chimame's accounts. She's gone totally dark.
Can you believe how many muties there are? I don't feel safe.
Wait…does that mean we've been used this entire time by them?
Breaking News: We've received a tip that raids will soon begin on the alleged cult the Children of the Atom. This is the climax of several simultaneous investigations targeting the mutant menace. Today, we finally get some answers.
These investigations were sparked by the social media *#meatcase* incident, which was rumored to be human experimentation. An arrest warrant has finally been issued for the alleged cult's top leader, known only as "the Maester." The whereabouts of the Maester are currently unknown.
We will continue to report on the progress of this investigation here.

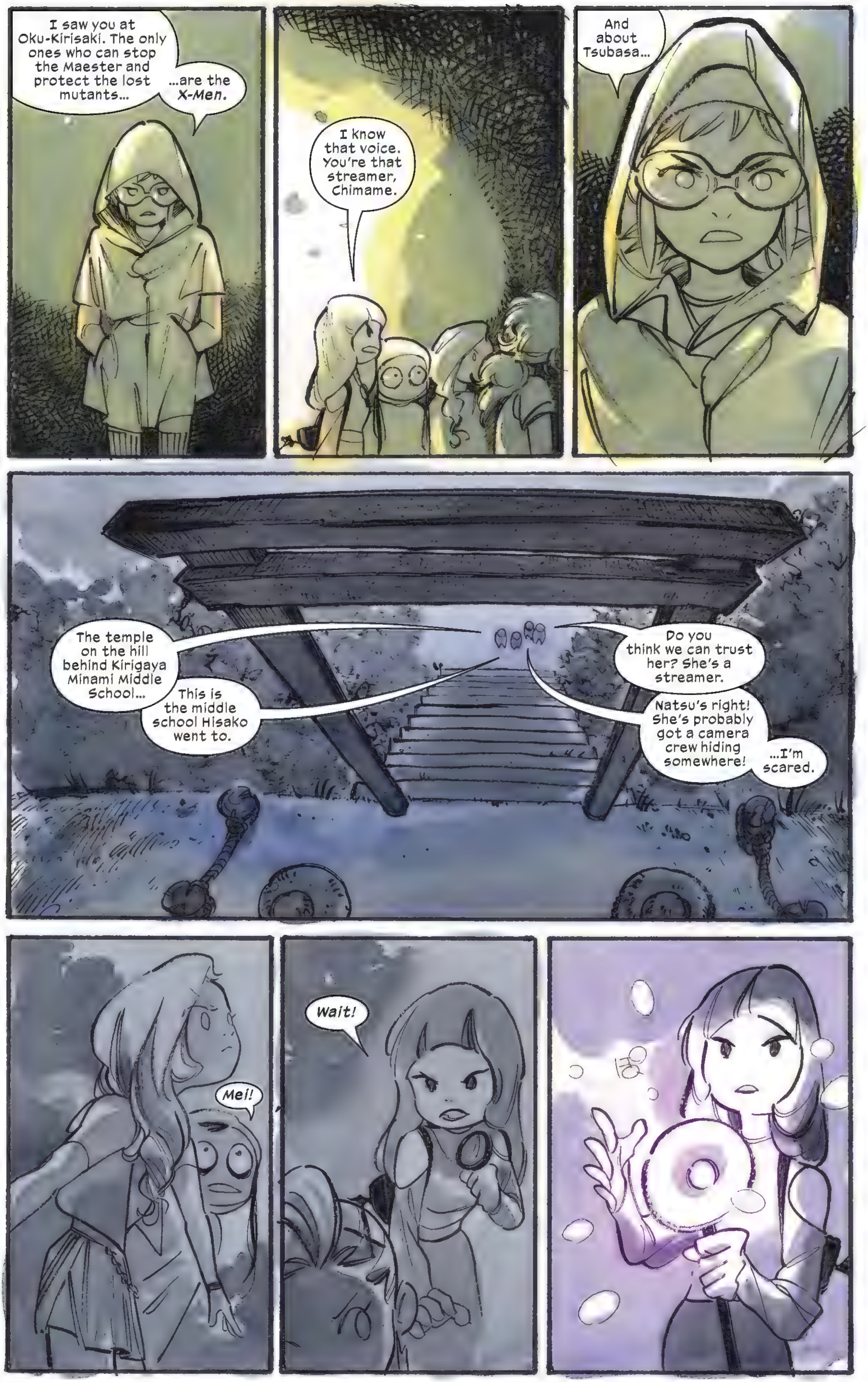

That's crazy! Your whole arm's already grown back!
It's not all the way grown back yet, Mei. That takes time. It's scary though. I forgot I could do this. But when I saw Akihiro...
...I remembered everything.
Look. I've been cut up a bunch of times. For years, I think...
Mori, it's okay...you don't have to show us. We believe you.
Because of this stupid regeneration power, I was his human guinea pig. Cut me up and I never die. I grow back. But it always hurts.
I forgot that too. But now that's all I can remember... Hurts so much...
You're free now, Mori. And with friends.
...
You think he's dead?
No. We would have heard something on the news. He escaped.
That sucks. I heard his Atom henchmen are missing too.
Hey, wait-- when did Natsu join the X-Men anyway?
I dunno.

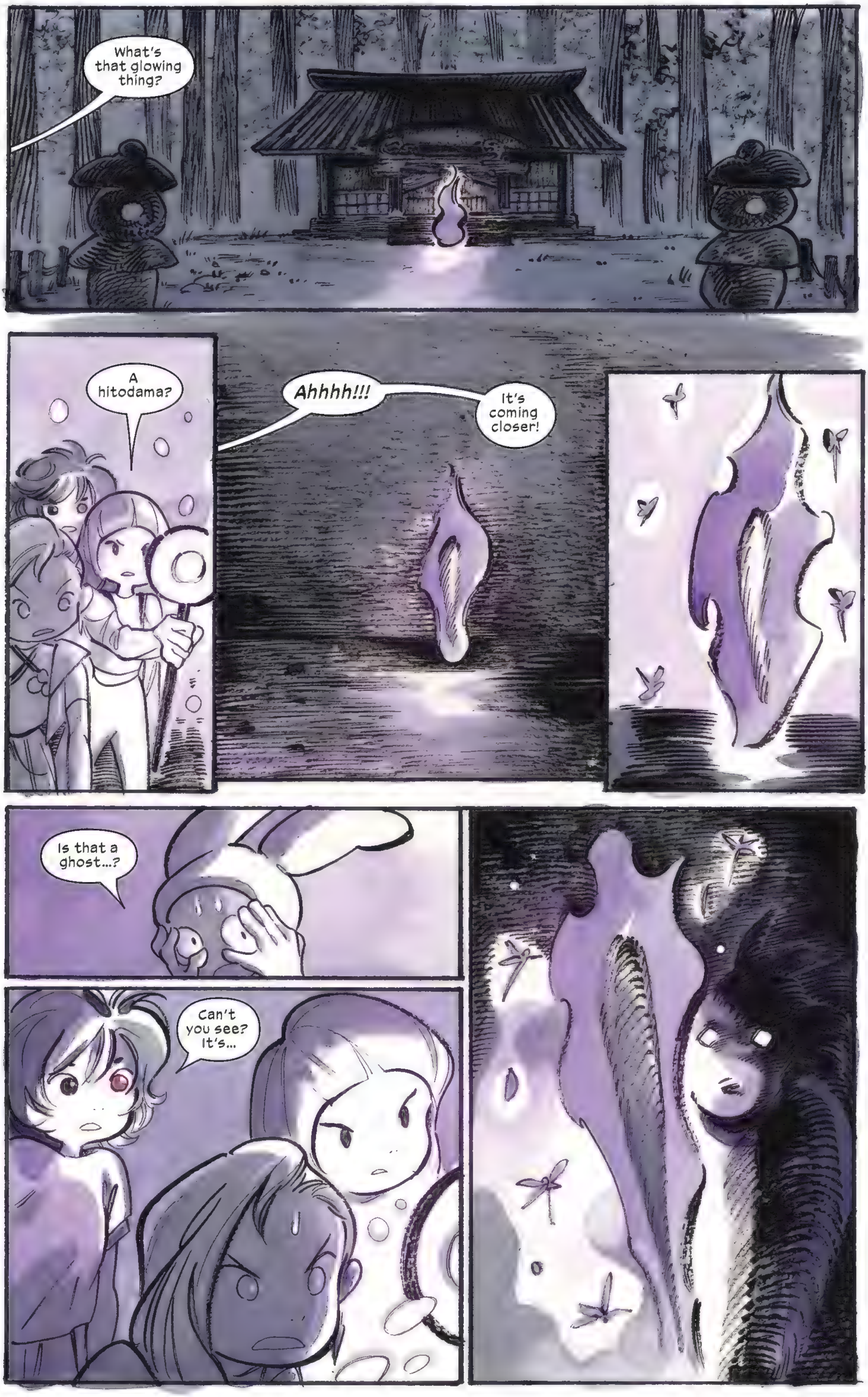

Natsu!
We were just talking about you!
Sorry I'm late.
You're not wearing your eyepatch?
I thought it was time for a change... Do I look weird...?
No way!
You look great!
We missed you, Natsu. You've been through a lot.
Yeah... thanks, Nico. I'm doing better now.
Mei helped me through it.
Huh? Me?
?
I missed hanging out with everyone!
We're still missing Hi-chan...

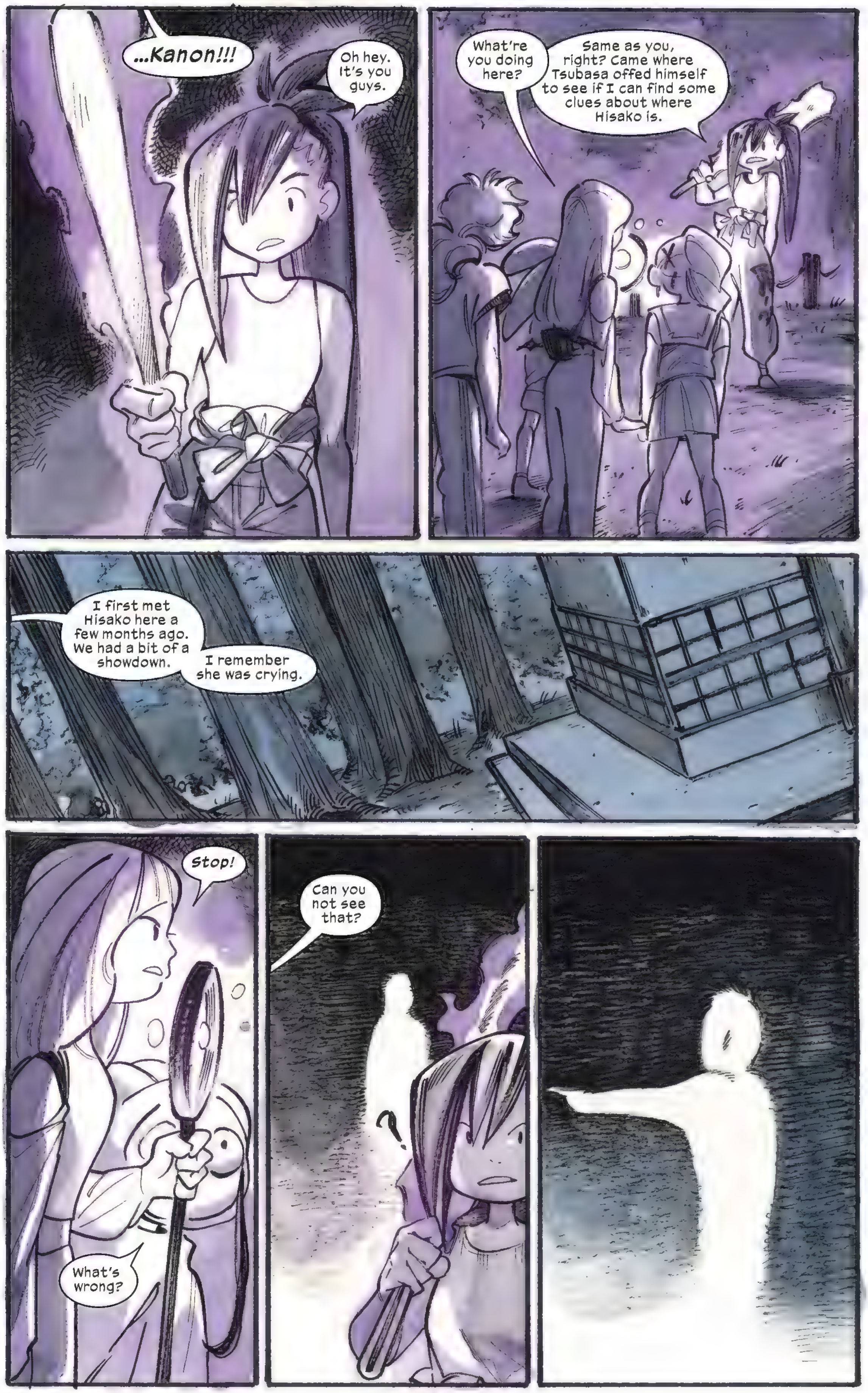

I wonder where Hisako and Kageyama went? They entered Akihiro and just... disappeared.
Actually, Nico, I heard on the news they took Akihiro into custody.
Before she went, Hisako said she was going to meet up with Tsubasa...
Does anyone know where Tsubasa died?
...I know.
Huh? Who are you?!
The real question is...
Do any of you know what is *really* going on?

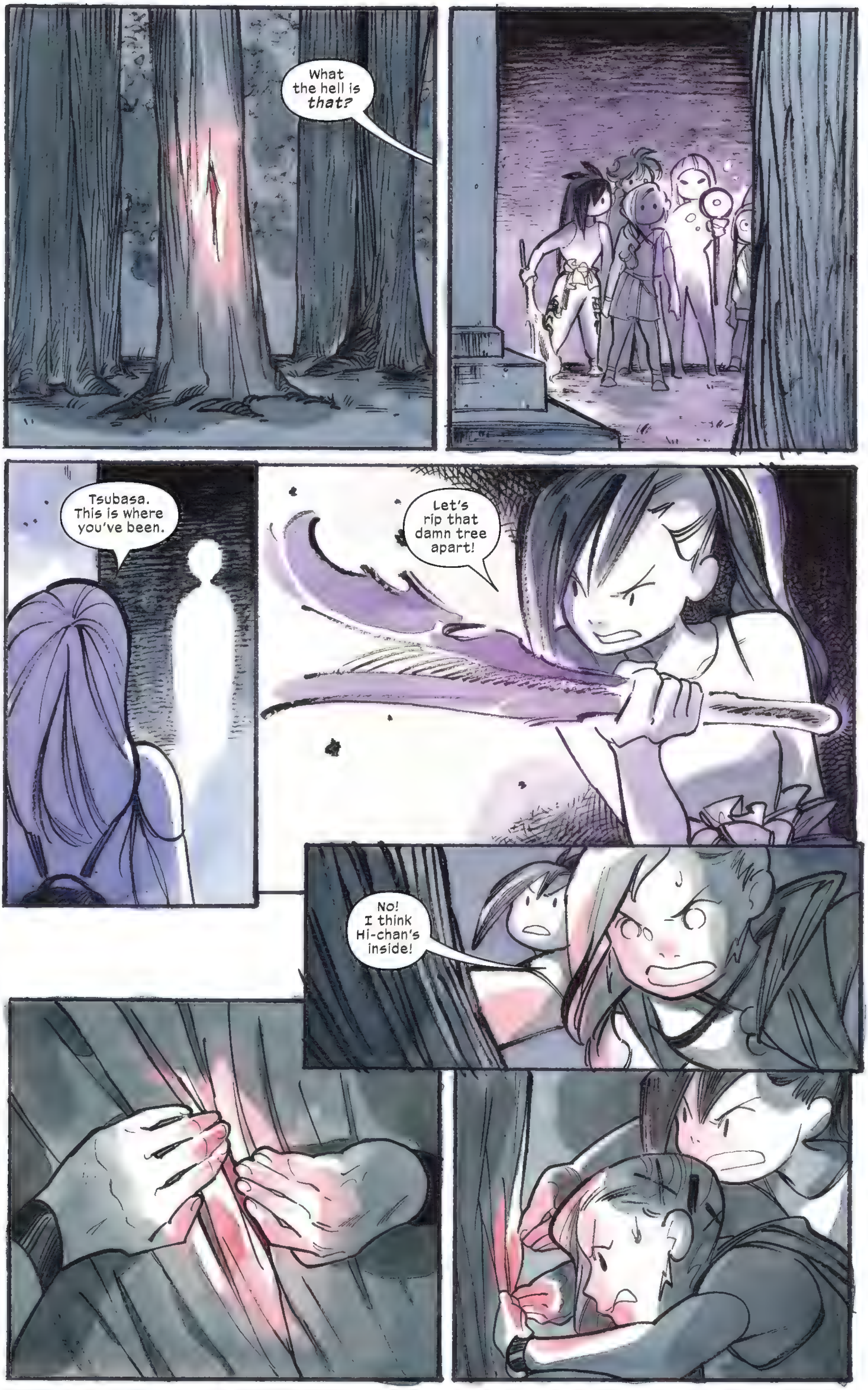

"The Maester of the Children of the Atom is still alive. He's planning something big.
"Project MY-X isn't over...
"You don't have to trust me, but don't believe what the mainstream media feeds you.

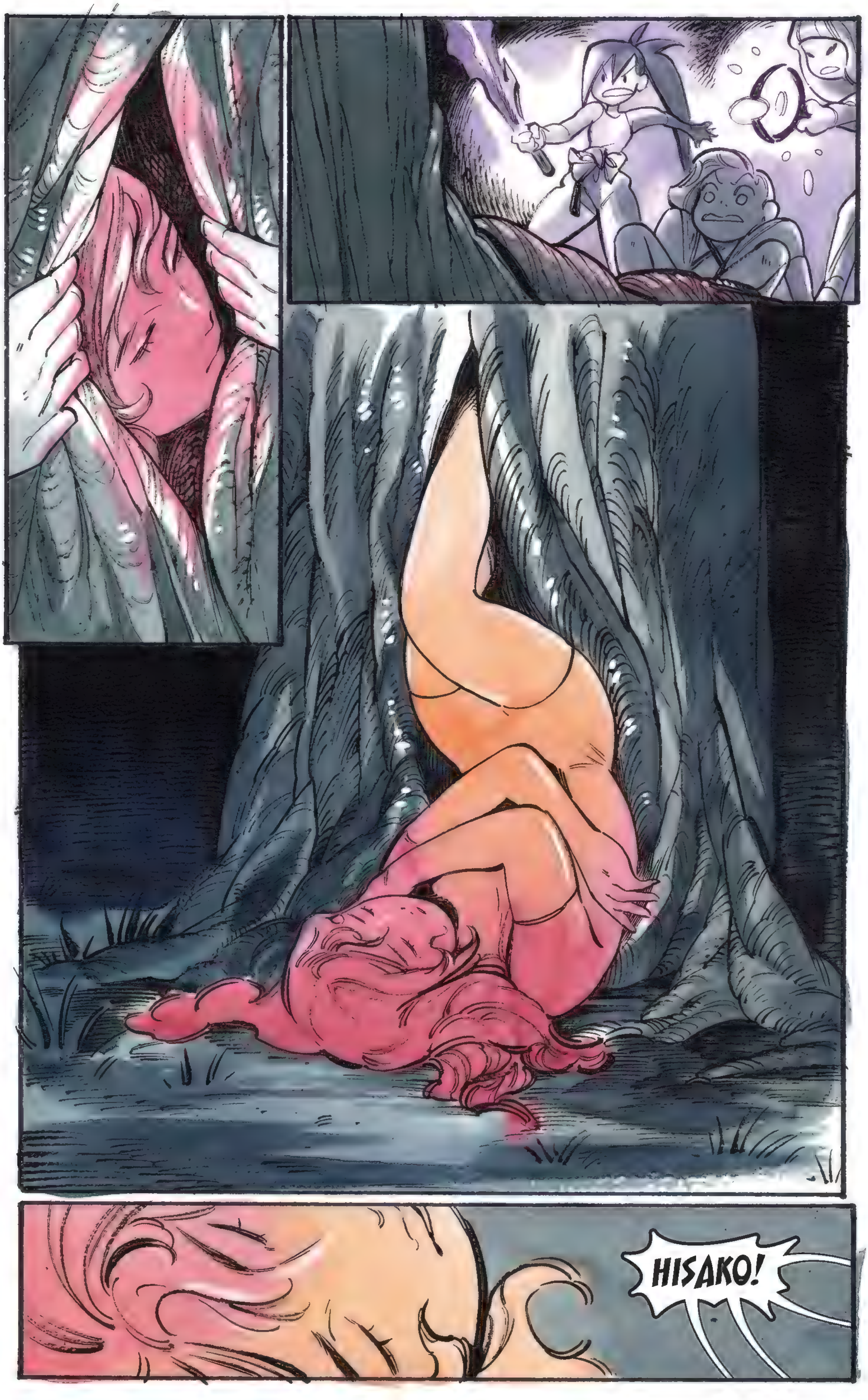

"Not that I have to tell you guys that. You know it better than anyone.
"Only trust what you see for yourself.
Hiroshi, if you ask me, I think the mutants are the real victims here. They were abused by the Children of the Atom. It's no wonder they've gone into hiding.
I hope the day will come when we can all live together in peace.
Indeed, Hiroko. And may that day come soon.
"The mutants under Maester's control are killing more and more.
"The clock's ticking..."

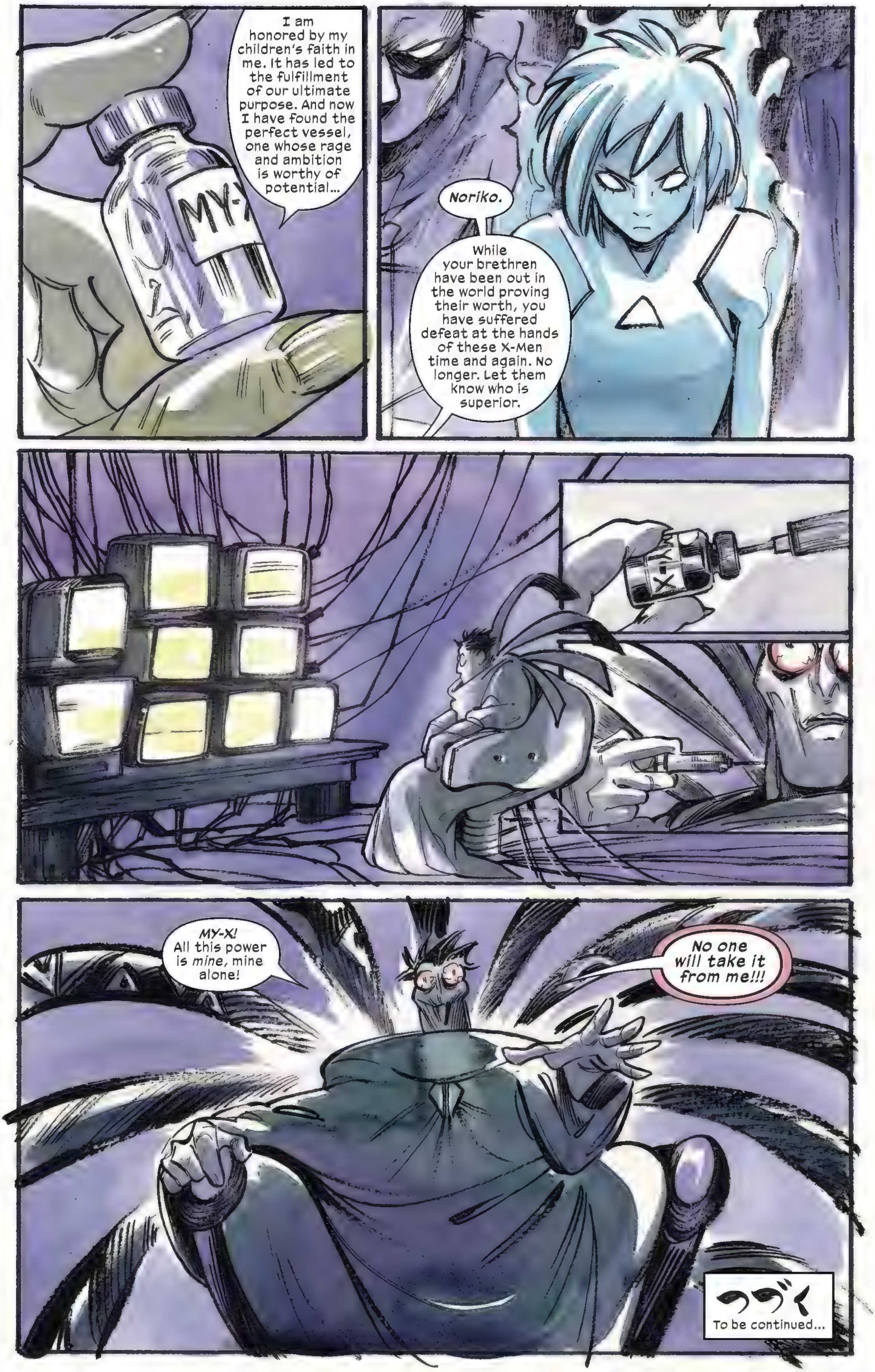

I saw you at Oku-Kirisaki. The only ones who can stop the Maester and protect the lost mutants...
...are the *X-Men.*
I know that voice. You're that streamer, Chimame.
And about Tsubasa...
The temple on the hill behind Kirigaya Minami Middle School...
This is the middle school Hisako went to.
Do you think we can trust her? She's a streamer.
Natsu's right! She's probably got a camera crew hiding somewhere!
...I'm scared.
Mei!
Wait!


What's that glowing thing?
A hitodama?
Ahhhh!!!
It's coming closer!
Is that a ghost...?
Can't you see? It's...


...Kanon!!!
Oh hey. It's you guys.
What're you doing here?
Same as you, right? Came where Tsubasa offed himself to see if I can find some clues about where Hisako is.
I first met Hisako here a few months ago. We had a bit of a showdown.
I remember she was crying.
Stop!
What's wrong?
Can you not see that?


What the hell is *that?*
Tsubasa. This is where you've been.
Let's rip that damn tree apart!
No! I think Hi-chan's inside!


HISAKO!

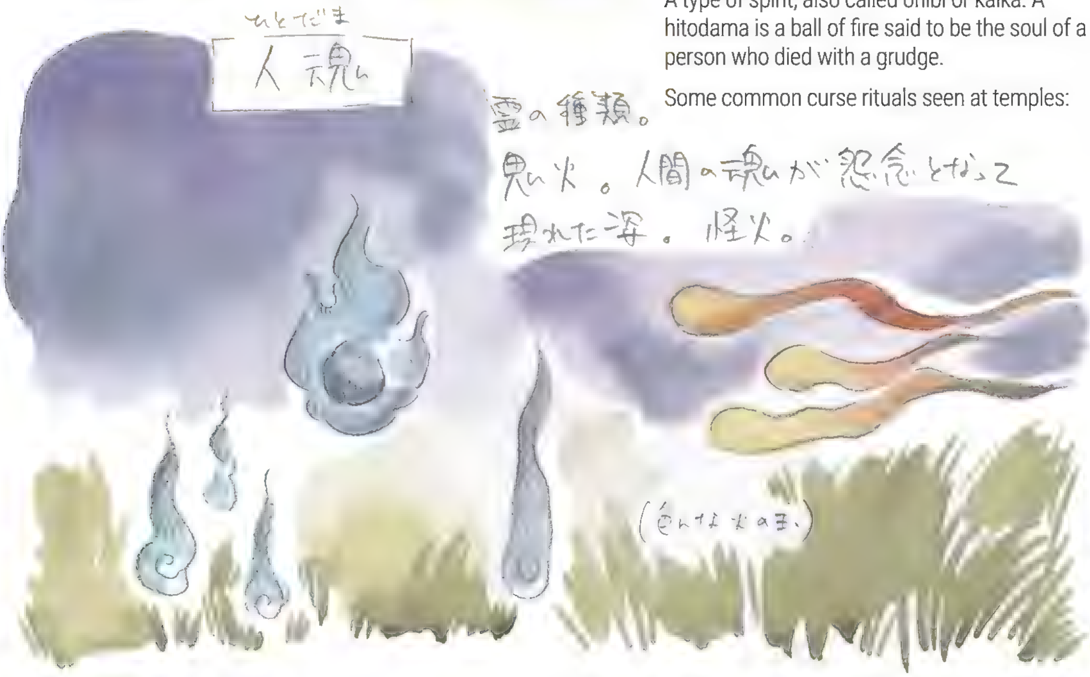

I am honored by my children's faith in me. It has led to the fulfillment of our ultimate purpose. And now I have found the perfect vessel, one whose rage and ambition is worthy of potential...
MY-X
Noriko.
While your brethren have been out in the world proving their worth, you have suffered defeat at the hands of these X-Men time and again. No longer. Let them know who is superior.
MY-X! All this power is *mine,* mine alone!
No one will take it from me!!!
つづく
To be continued...

LEXICON

HITODAMA

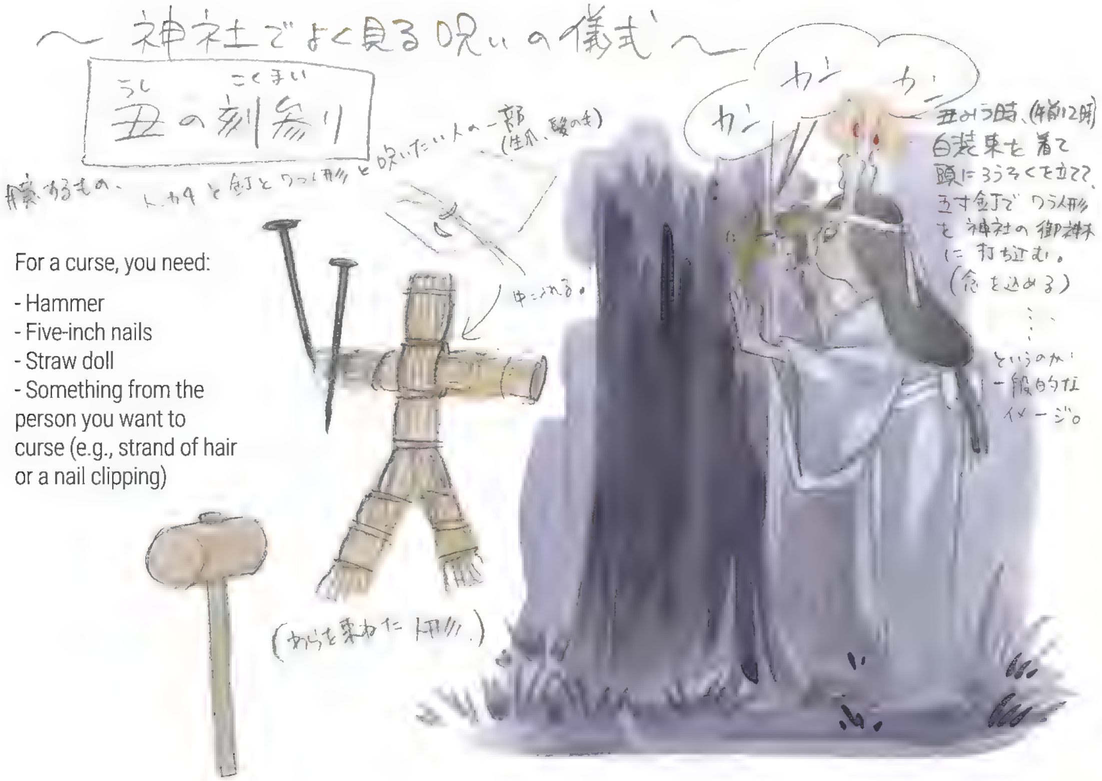
A type of spirit, also called onibi or kaika. A hitodama is a ball of fire said to be the soul of a person who died with a grudge.

Some common curse rituals seen at temples:


ひとだま
人魂
霊の種類。
鬼火。人間の魂が怨念となって
現れた姿。怪火。
（色んな火の玉。）

USHI NO KOKU MAIRI

At Ushi Mitsu Toki (midnight), wear a white kimono or white clothing and tie two candles into a headband. Hammer a straw doll into a sacred tree of a shrine using a five-inch nail. Make sure to focus all of your grudges into each hit.


〜神社でよく見る呪いの儀式〜
うし こくまいり
丑の刻参り
用意するもの。
トンカチと釘とワラ人形と呪いたい人の一部
（生爪、髪の毛）
中に入れる。
カン
カン
カン
丑みつ時、（午前12時）
白装束を着て
頭にろうそくを立てて、
五寸釘でワラ人形
を神社の御神木
に打ち込む。
（念を込める）
…
というのが
一般的な
イメージ。
（わらを束ねた人形。）

For a curse, you need:

- Hammer
- Five-inch nails
- Straw doll
- Something from the person you want to curse (e.g., strand of hair or a nail clipping)

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SCRIPT ADAPTATION: **ZACK DAVISSON**
LETTERER: **VC's TRAVIS LANHAM**

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X-MEN CREATED BY **STAN LEE** & **JACK KIRBY**

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NEXT

MARVEL
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ULTIMATE
X-MEN
PEACH MOMOKO

ON SALE IN **SEPTEMBER**

ON SALE THIS MONTH

MARVEL
20
ULTIMATE
SPIDER-MAN

ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN #20

BY **JONATHAN HICKMAN**
& **DAVID MESSINA**

MARVEL
19
ULTIMATE
BLACK PANTHER

ULTIMATE BLACK PANTHER #19

BY **BRYAN HILL** &
CARLOS NIETO

MARVEL
15
THE
ULTIMATES

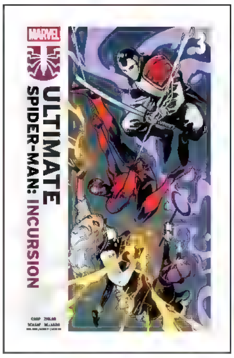
ULTIMATES #15

BY **DENIZ CAMP**
& **VON RANDAL**

MARVEL
8
ULTIMATE
WOLVERINE

ULTIMATE WOLVERINE #8

BY **CHRIS CONDON** &
ALESSANDRO CAPPUCCIO


MARVEL
3
ULTIMATE
SPIDER-MAN: INCURSION

ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN: INCURSION #3

BY **DENIZ CAMP**, **CODY ZIGLAR**
& **JONAS SCHARF**

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU! EMAIL US AT **ULTIMATEOFFICE@MARVEL.COM** AND MARK YOUR LETTERS **"OKAY TO PRINT"**!

15

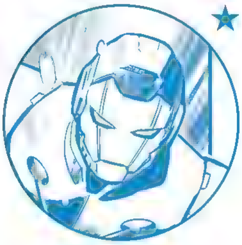
A diabolical genius known as **THE MAKER** used time travel to create his ideal Earth by systematically preventing anyone from ever becoming a super hero and by establishing a secret council of super villains, **THE MAKER'S COUNCIL**, that rules the world from the shadows.

But now the Maker is gone, locked away for the next four months by inventor **HOWARD STARK**. Howard's teenage son, **TONY**, took on the codename **IRON LAD** and began recruiting a network of heroes to fight back against the Maker's Council and prepare for the Maker's return.

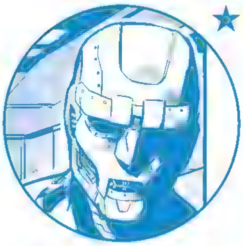
These heroes, calling themselves the **ULTIMATES**, have been operating covertly across the globe--but time is running out before the Maker returns. They've enlisted more members at every opportunity but also suffered crushing defeats, the worst of all at the hands of **THE HULK** and his **IMMORTAL WEAPONS**. With the future uncertain, any advantage over the coming conflict is worth seeking out...

THE ULTIMATES

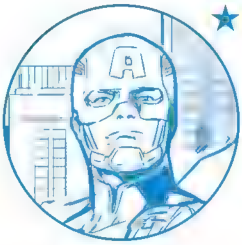
CAST:



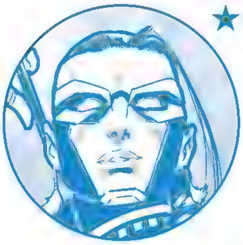
IRON LAD
TONY STARK



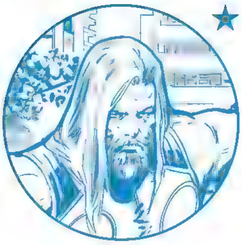
DOOM
REED RICHARDS



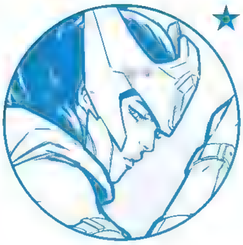
CAPTAIN AMERICA
STEVE ROGERS



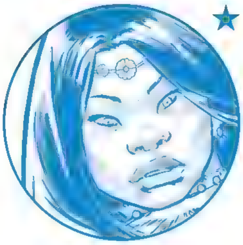
HAWKEYE
CHARLI RAMSEY



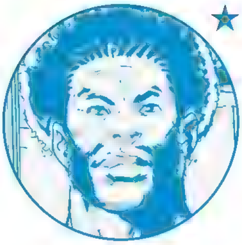
THOR
GOD OF THUNDER



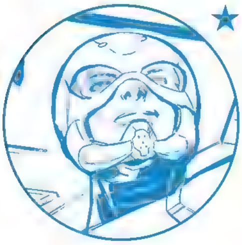
SIF
WARRIOR GODDESS



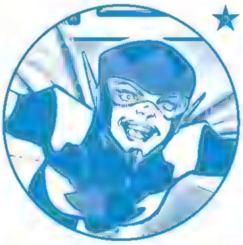
SHE-HULK
LEJORI JOENA ZAKARIA



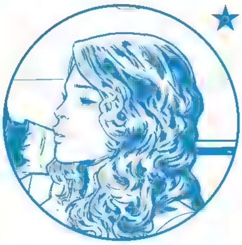
LUKE CAGE
PRISON REVOLTER



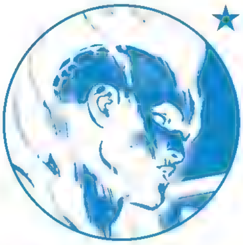
GIANT-MAN
HANK PYM



WASP
JANET VAN DYNE

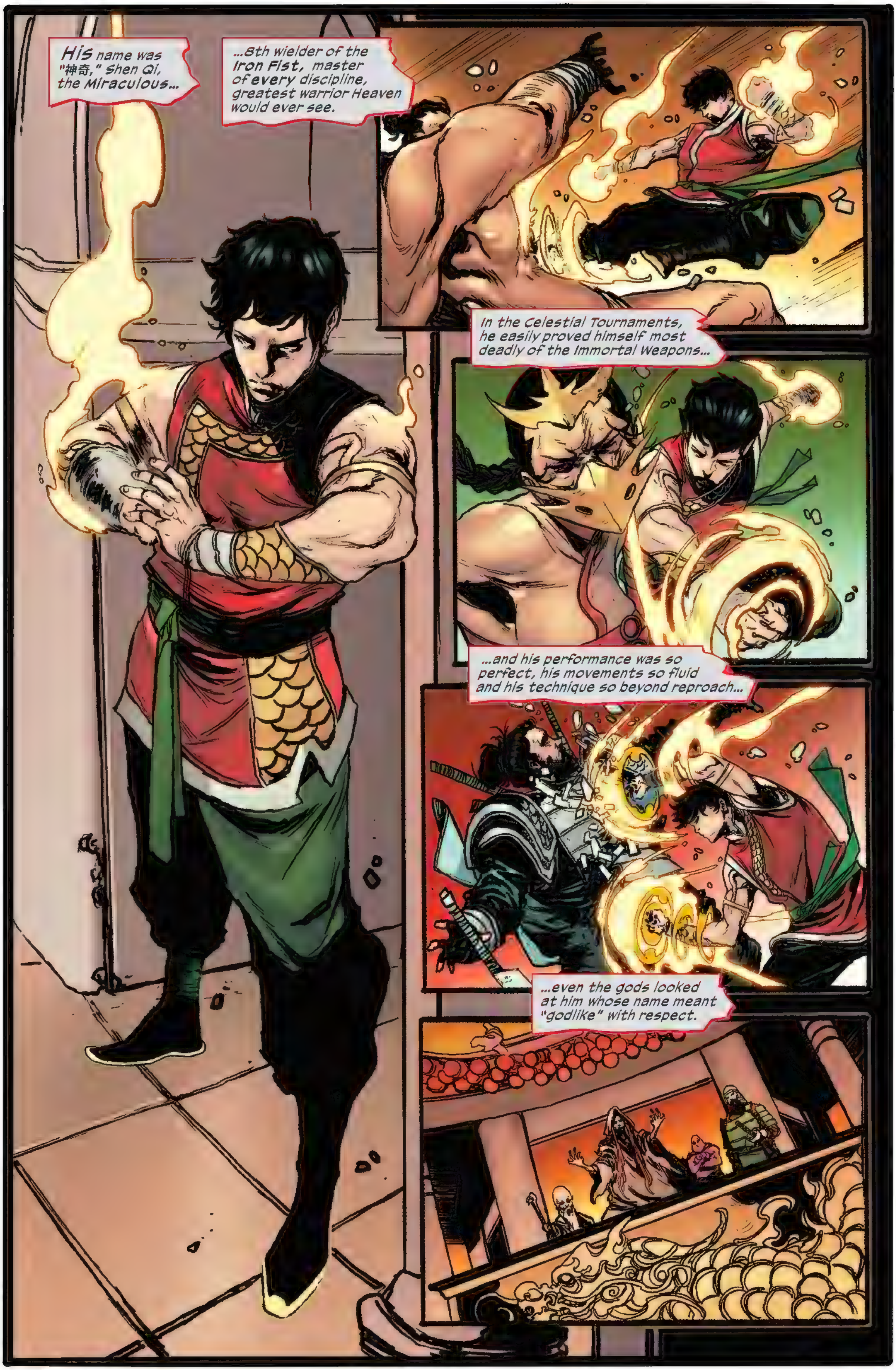


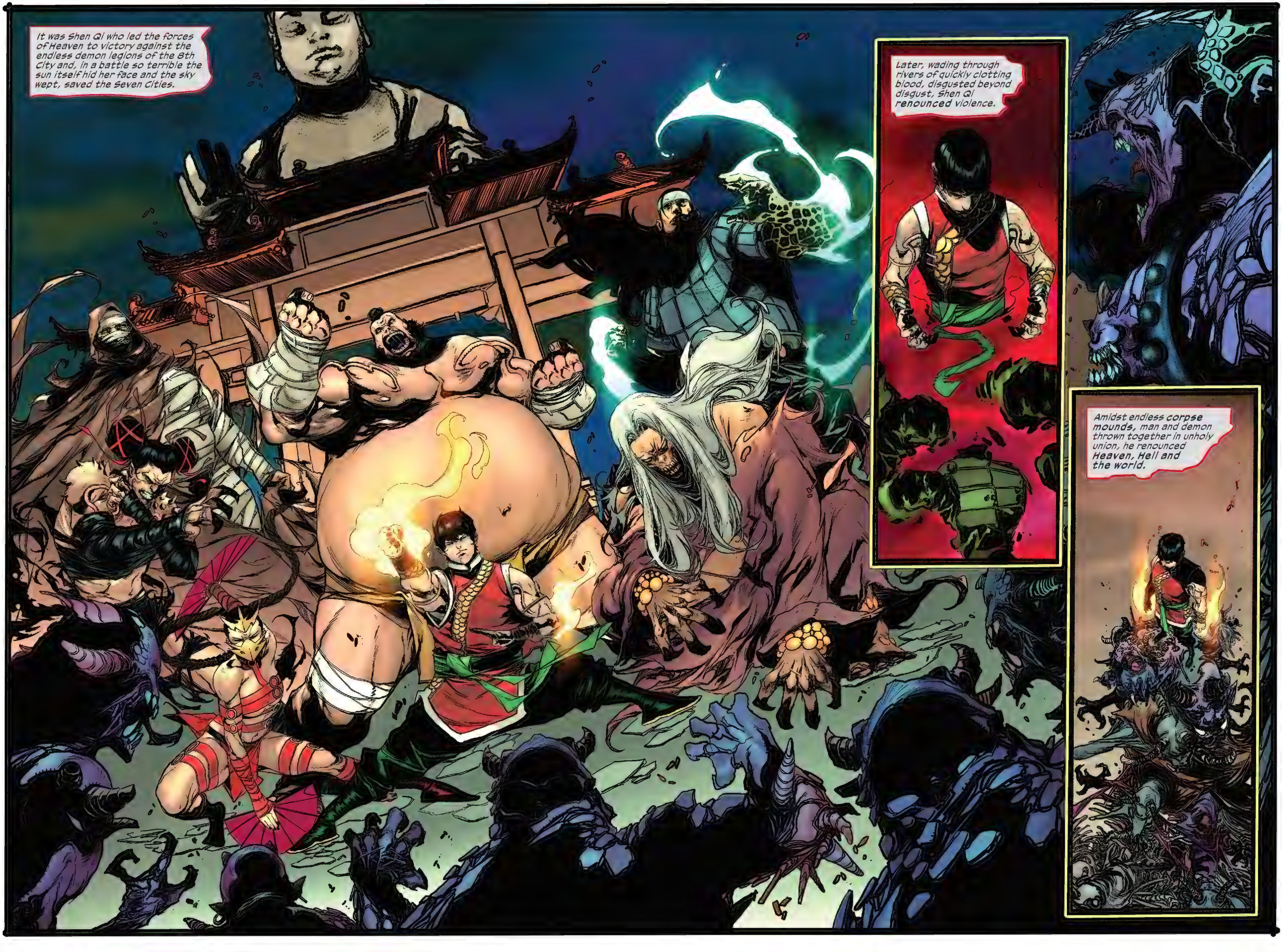
AMERICA CHAVEZ
COSMIC POWERHOUSE

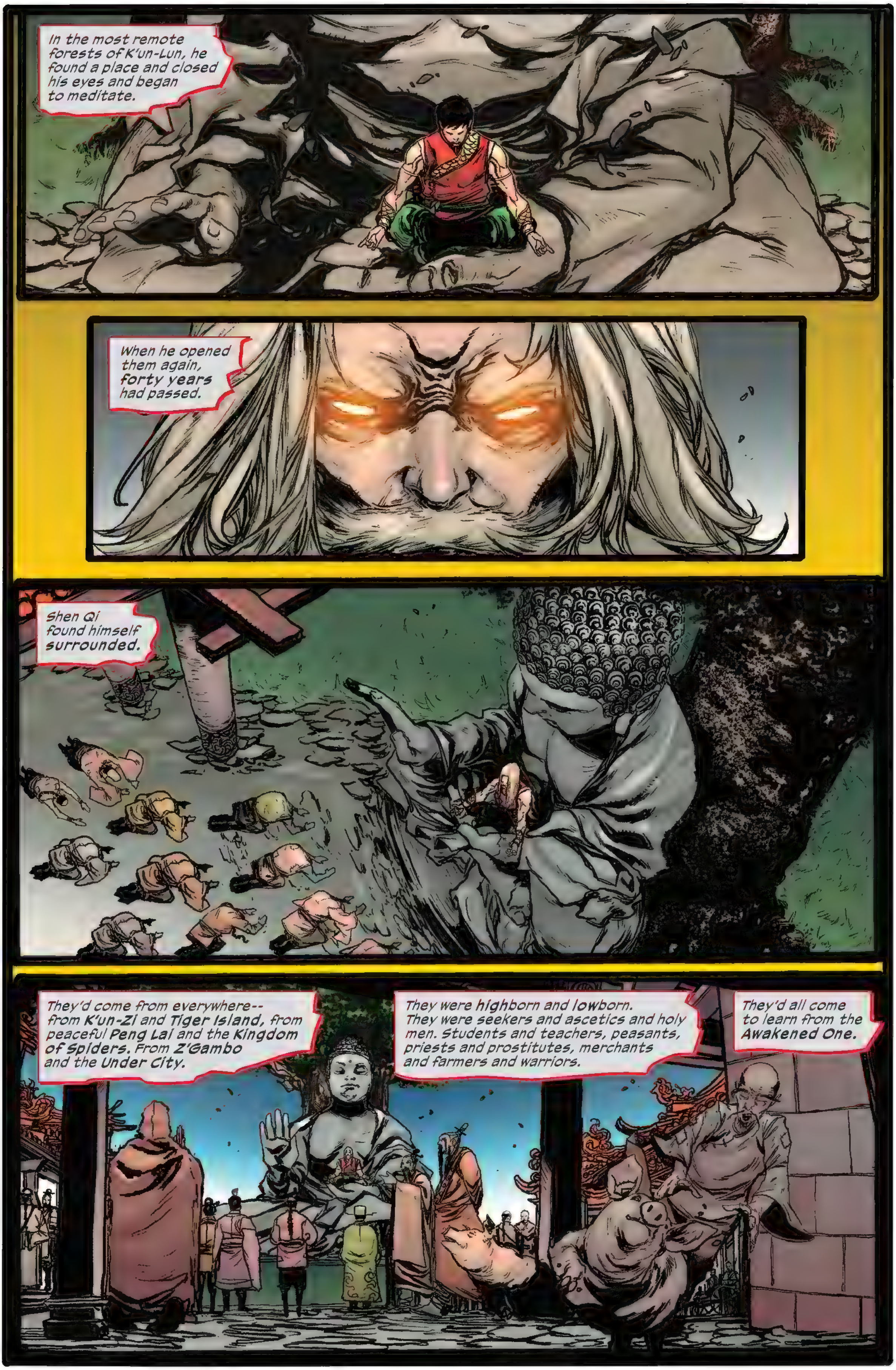


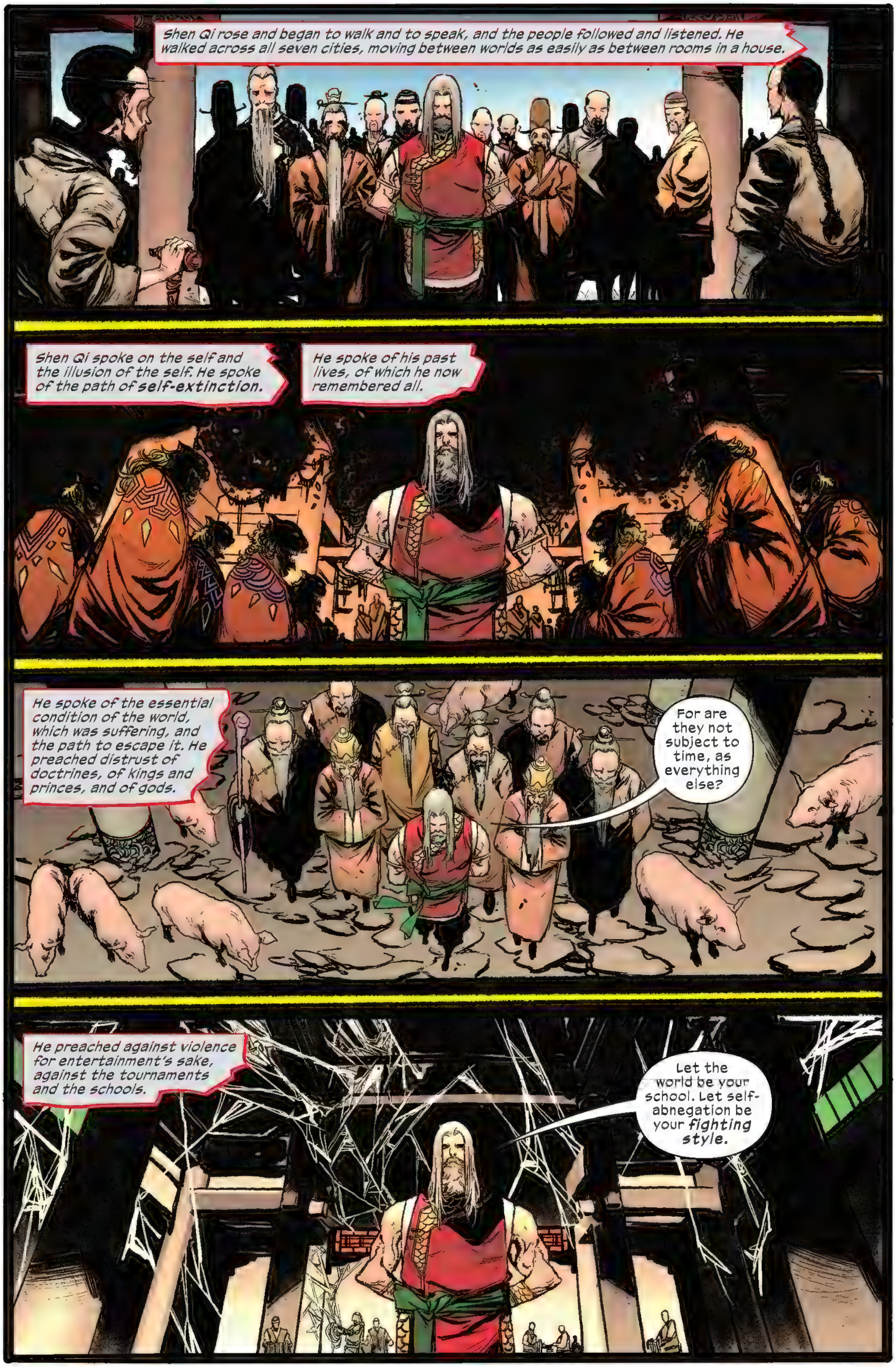
THE HUMAN TORCH
JIM HAMMOND

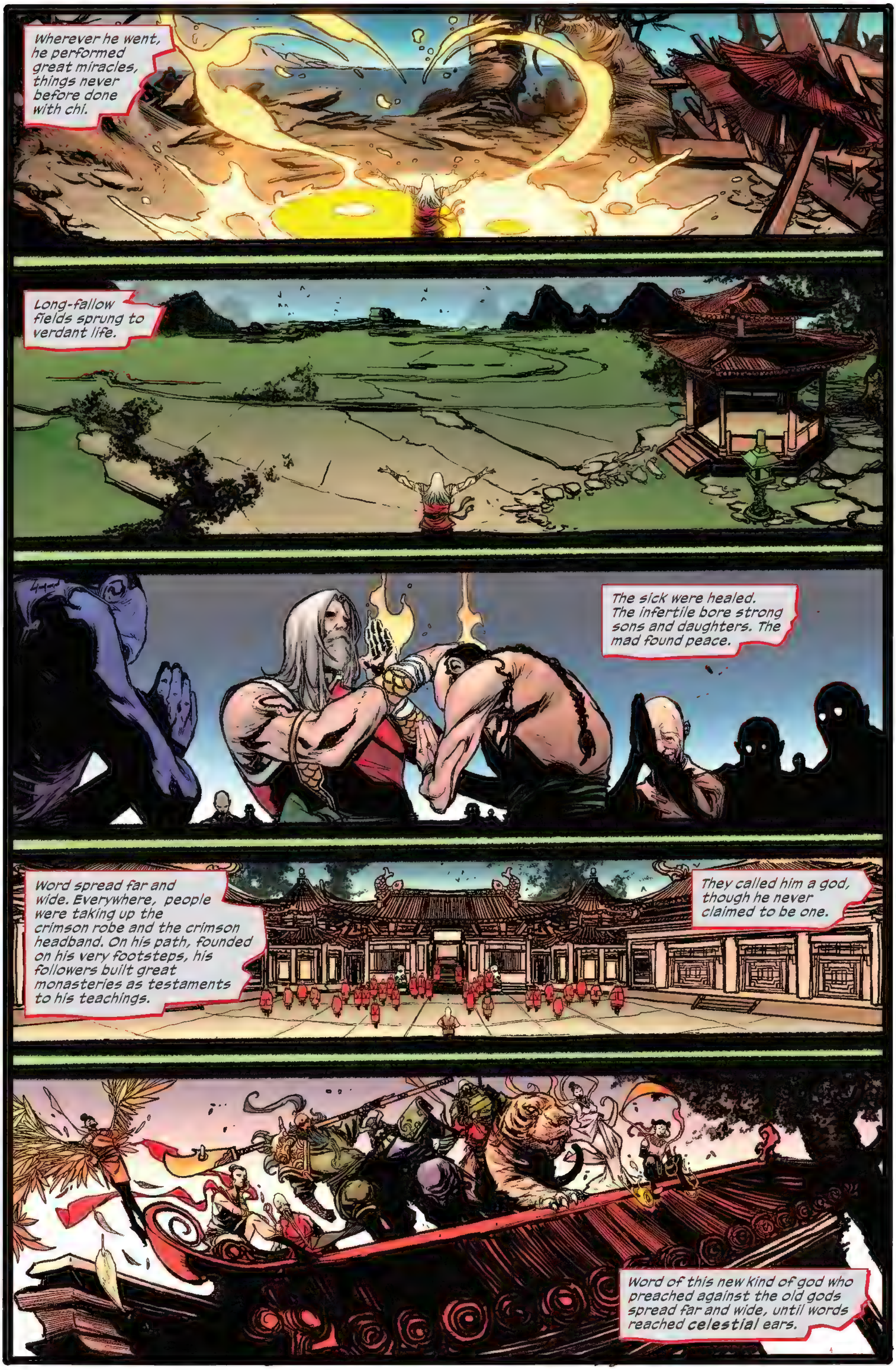
AUGUST 2025

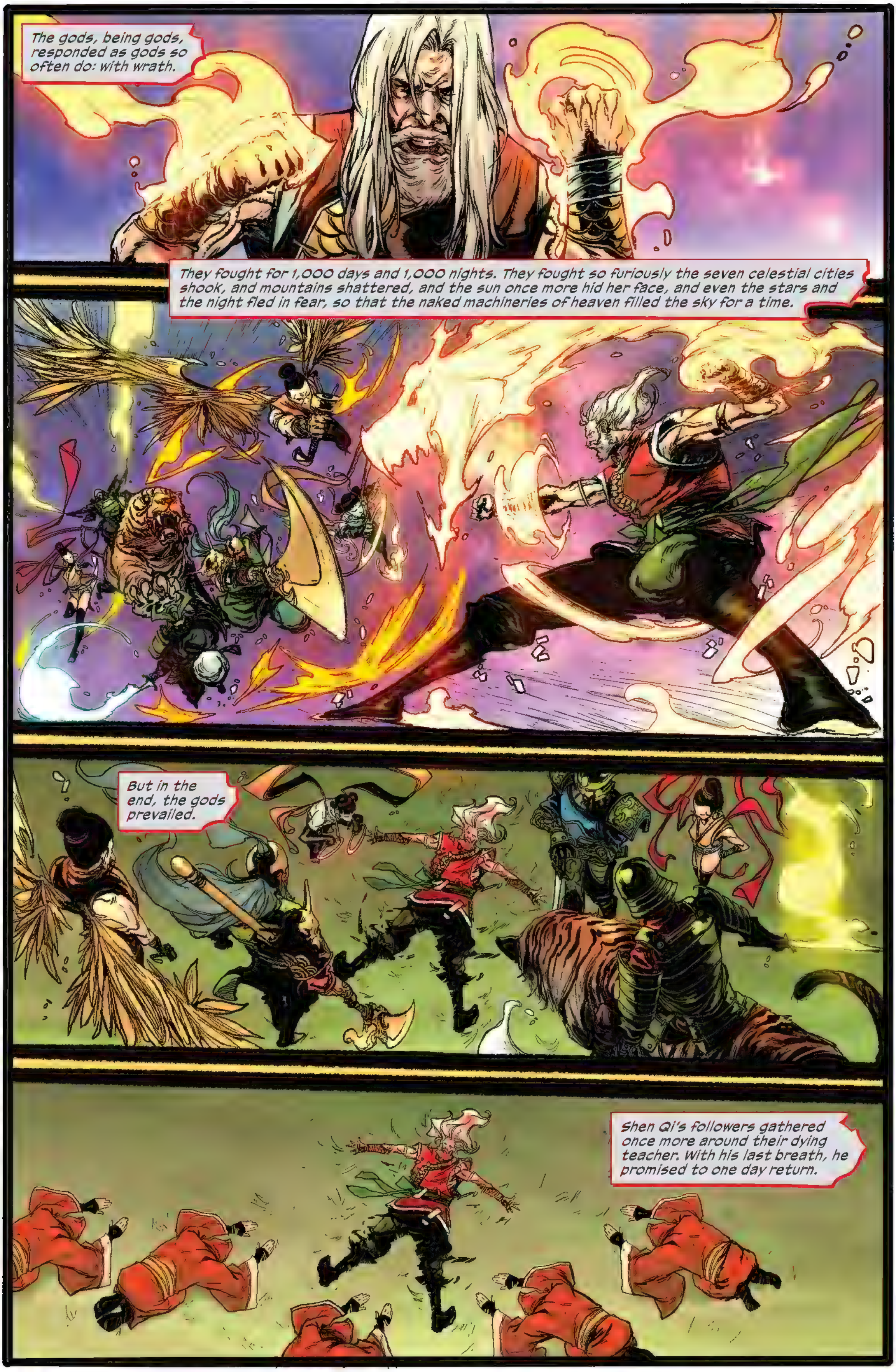

His name was "神奇," Shen Qi, the Miraculous...
...8th wielder of the Iron Fist, master of every discipline, greatest warrior Heaven would ever see.
In the Celestial Tournaments, he easily proved himself most deadly of the Immortal Weapons...
...and his performance was so perfect, his movements so fluid and his technique so beyond reproach...
...even the gods looked at him whose name meant "godlike" with respect.

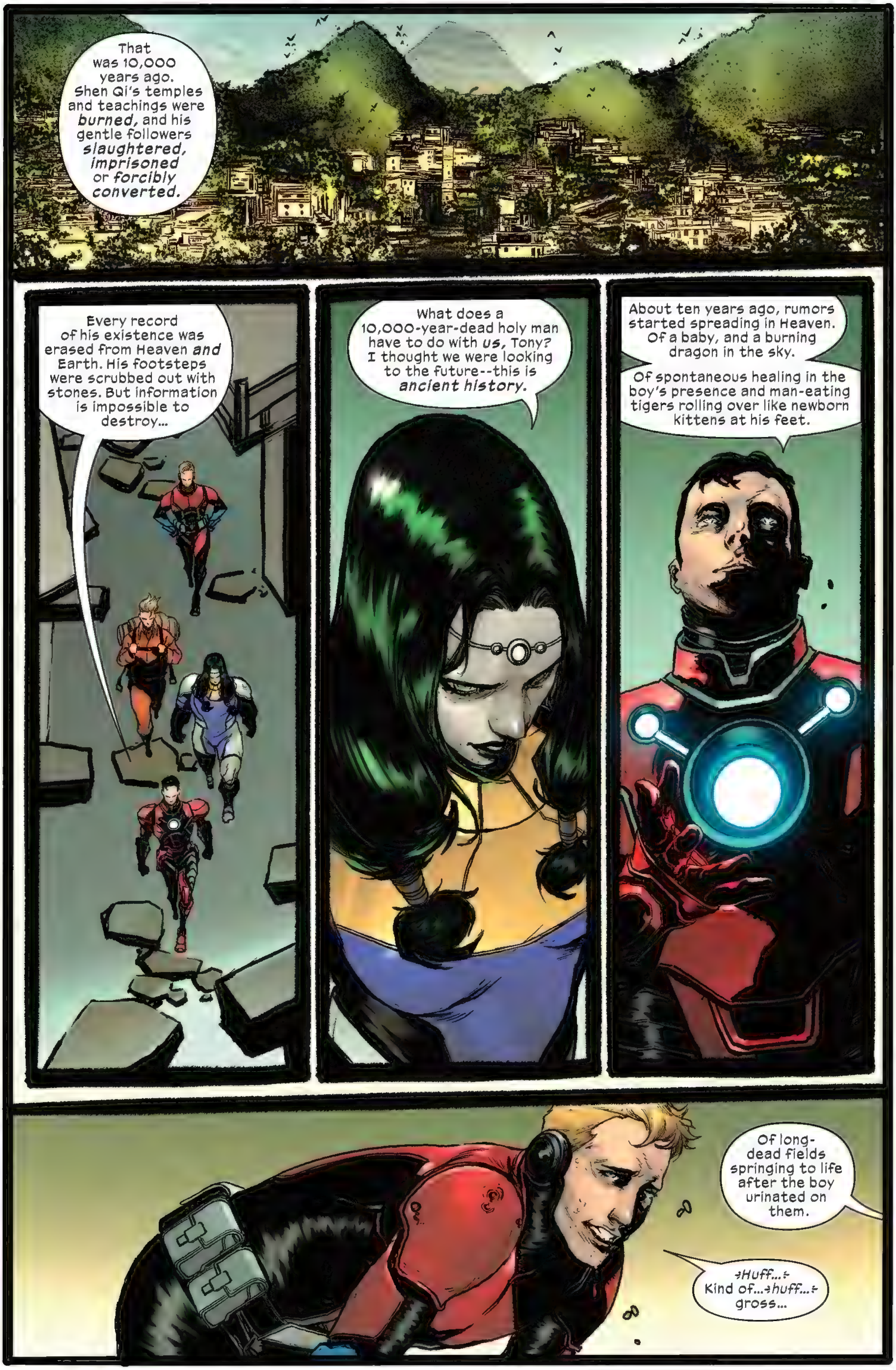

It was Shen Qi who led the forces of Heaven to victory against the endless demon legions of the 8th City and, in a battle so terrible the sun itself hid her face and the sky wept, saved the Seven Cities.
Later, wading through rivers of quickly clotting blood, disgusted beyond disgust, Shen Qi **renounced** violence.
Amidst endless **corpse mounds**, man and demon thrown together in unholy union, he renounced **Heaven, Hell** and **the world.**

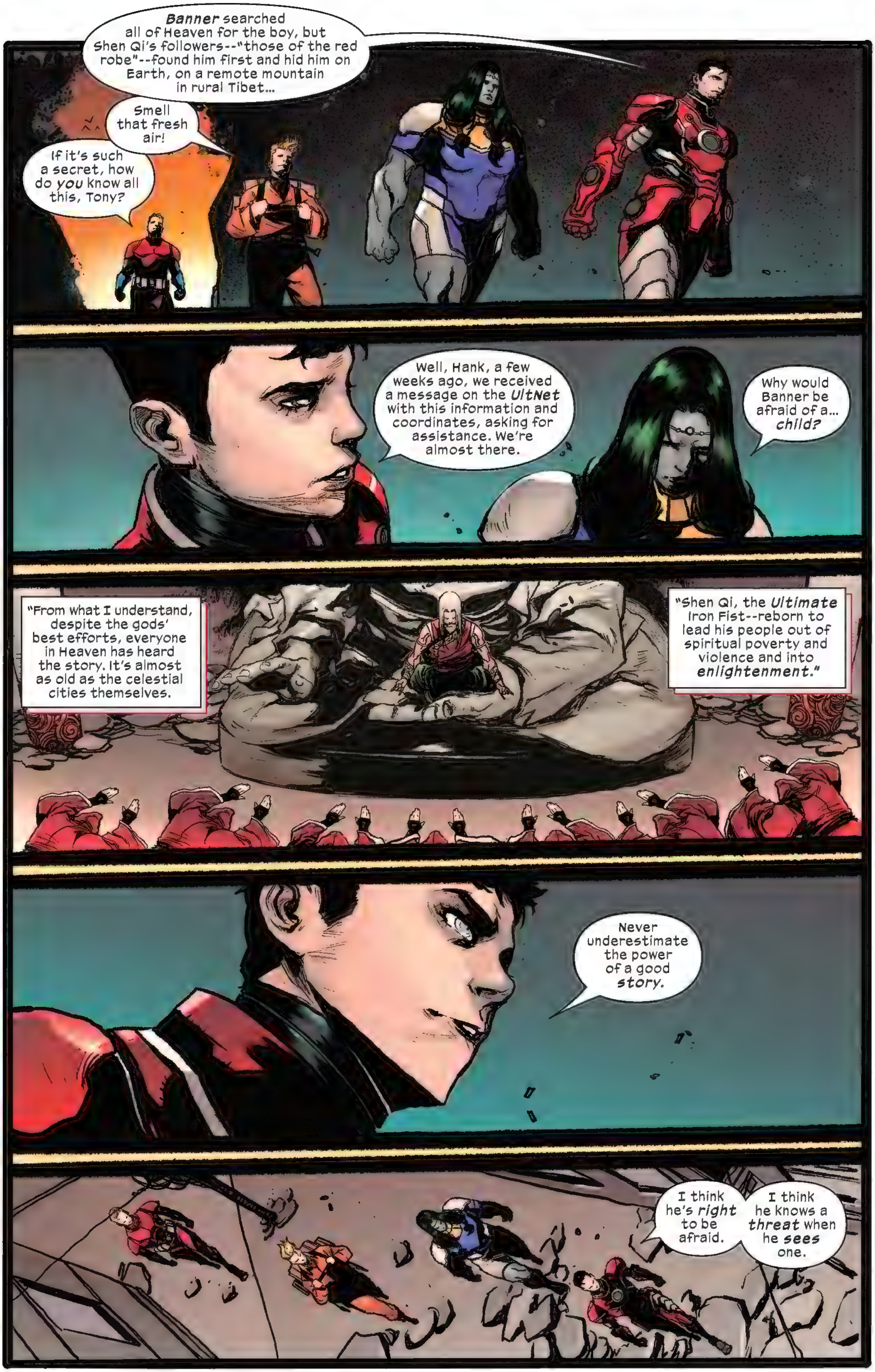

In the most remote forests of K'un-Lun, he found a place and closed his eyes and began to meditate.
When he opened them again, forty years had passed.
Shen Qi found himself surrounded.
They'd come from everywhere-- from K'un-Zi and Tiger Island, from peaceful Peng Lai and the Kingdom of Spiders. From Z'Gambo and the Under City.
They were highborn and lowborn. They were seekers and ascetics and holy men. Students and teachers, peasants, priests and prostitutes, merchants and farmers and warriors.
They'd all come to learn from the Awakened One.

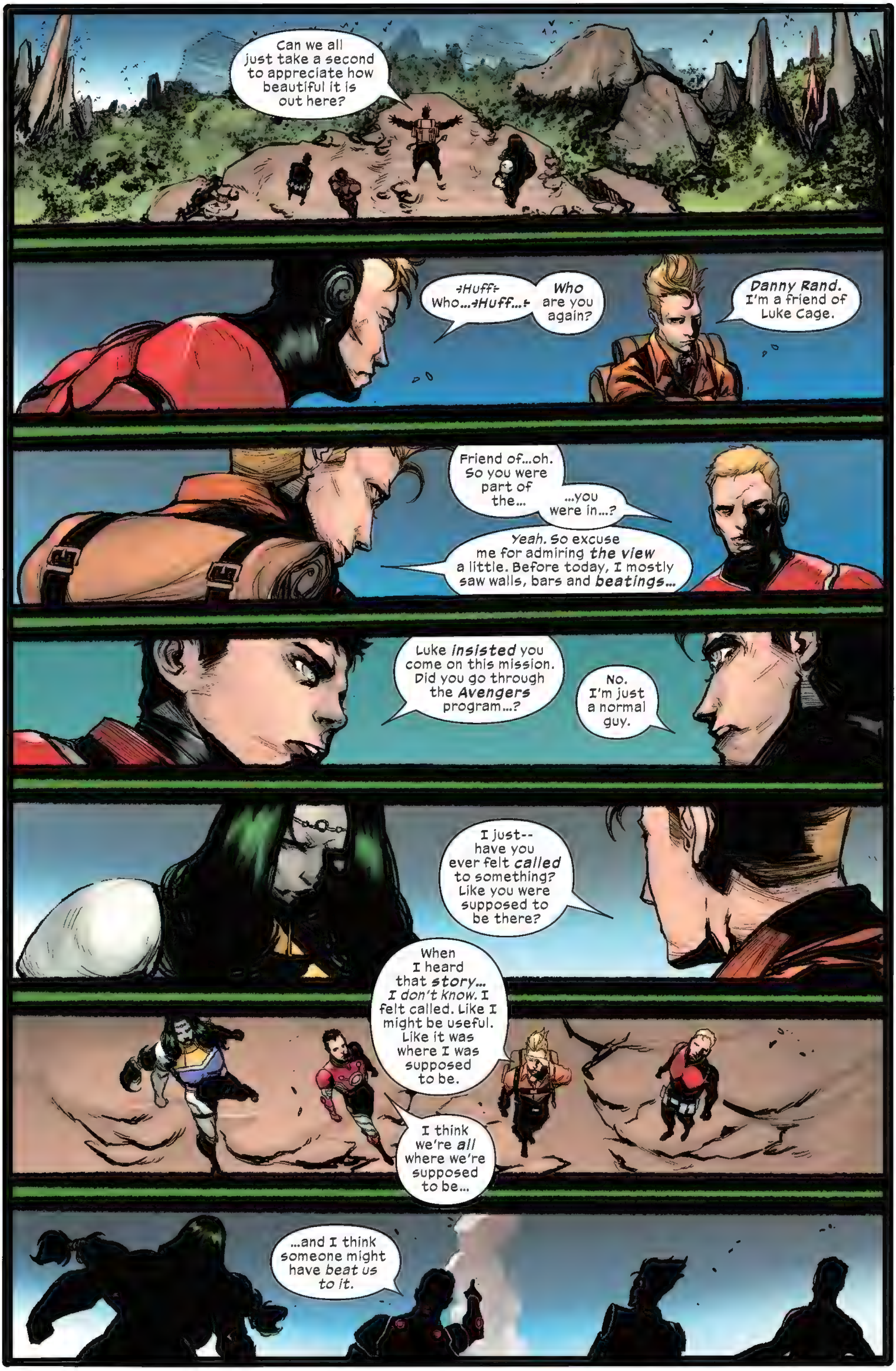

Shen Qi rose and began to walk and to speak, and the people followed and listened. He walked across all seven cities, moving between worlds as easily as between rooms in a house.
Shen Qi spoke on the self and the illusion of the self. He spoke of the path of **self-extinction.**
He spoke of his past lives, of which he now remembered all.
He spoke of the essential condition of the world, which was suffering, and the path to escape it. He preached distrust of doctrines, of kings and princes, and of gods.
For are they not subject to time, as everything else?
He preached against violence for entertainment's sake, against the tournaments and the schools.
Let the world be your school. Let self-abnegation be your ***fighting style.***

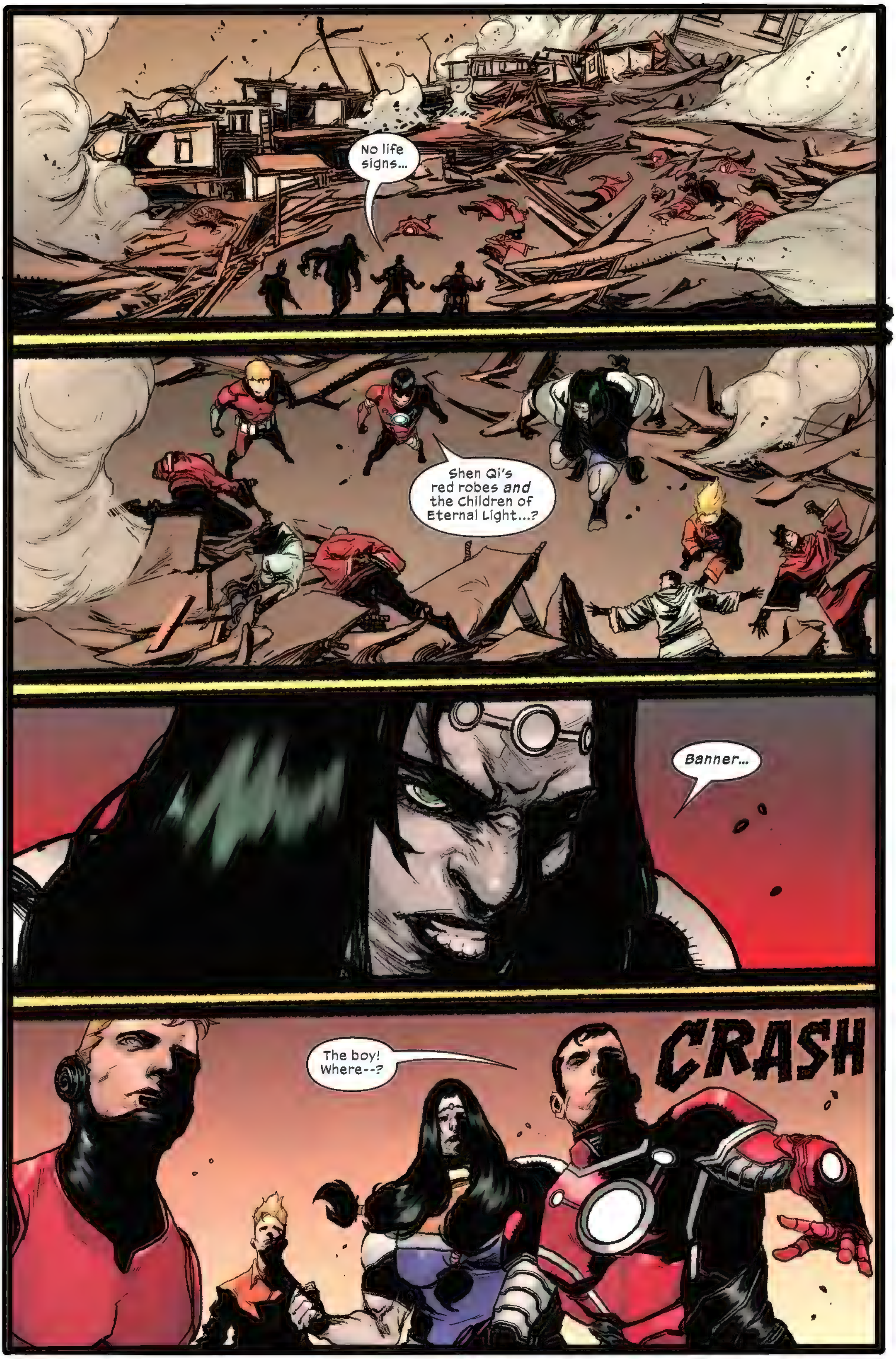

Wherever he went, he performed great miracles, things never before done with chi.
Long-fallow fields sprung to verdant life.
The sick were healed. The infertile bore strong sons and daughters. The mad found peace.
Word spread far and wide. Everywhere, people were taking up the crimson robe and the crimson headband. On his path, founded on his very footsteps, his followers built great monasteries as testaments to his teachings.
They called him a god, though he never claimed to be one.
Word of this new kind of god who preached against the old gods spread far and wide, until words reached **celestial** ears.

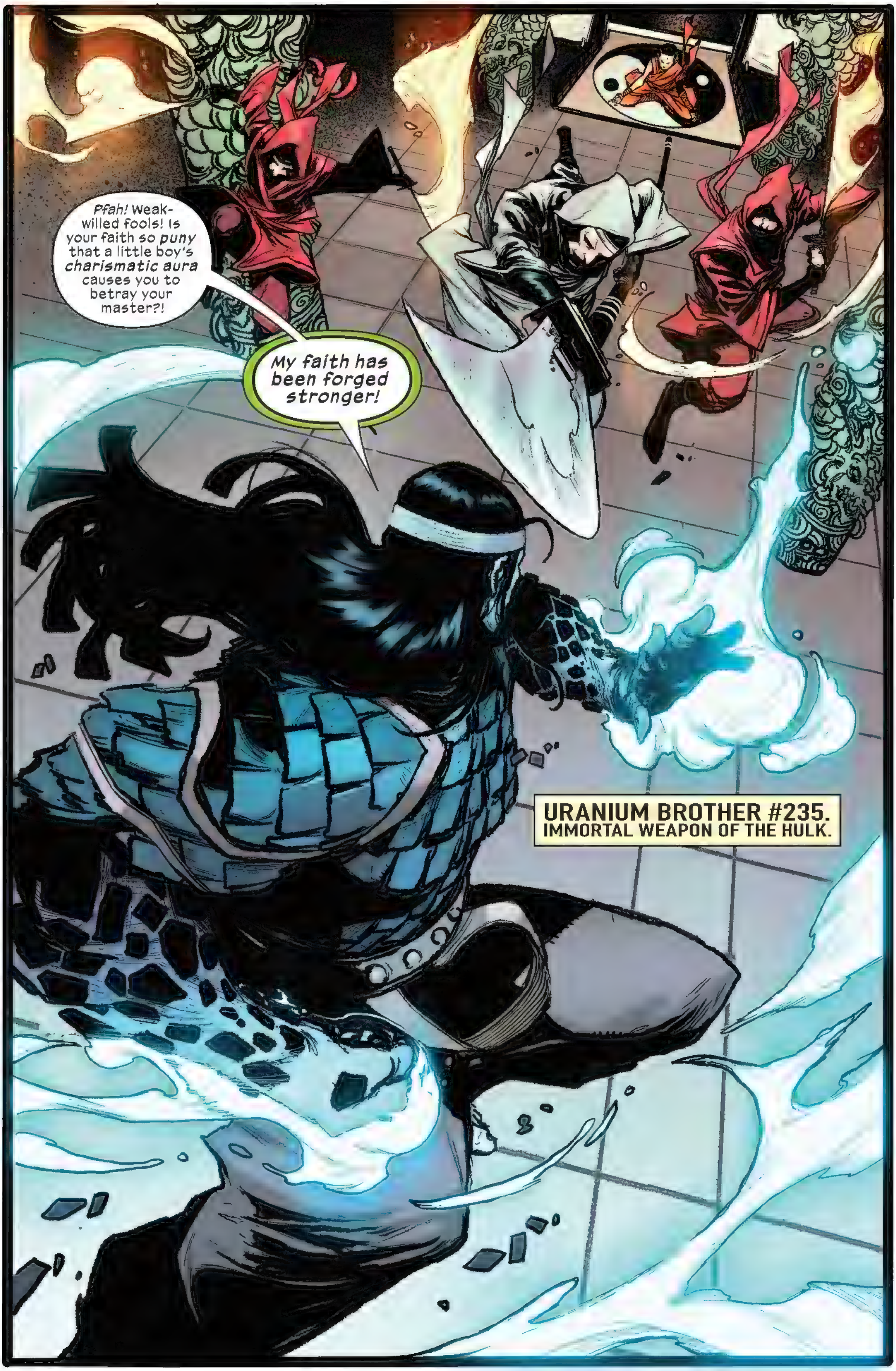

The gods, being gods, responded as gods so often do: with wrath.
They fought for 1,000 days and 1,000 nights. They fought so furiously the seven celestial cities shook, and mountains shattered, and the sun once more hid her face, and even the stars and the night fled in fear, so that the naked machineries of heaven filled the sky for a time.
But in the end, the gods prevailed.
Shen Qi's followers gathered once more around their dying teacher. With his last breath, he promised to one day return.

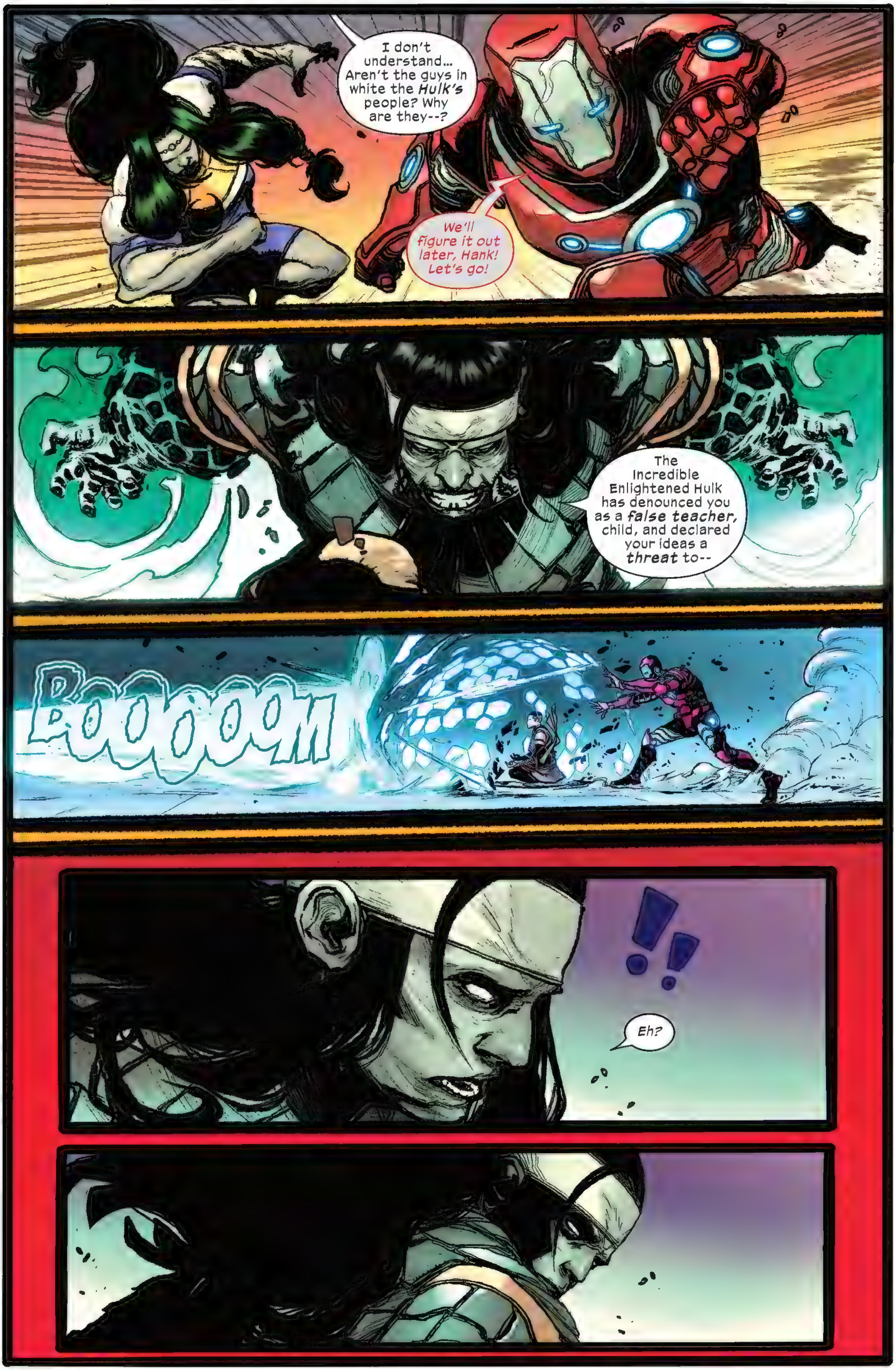

That was 10,000 years ago. Shen Qi's temples and teachings were *burned*, and his gentle followers *slaughtered, imprisoned* or *forcibly converted.*
Every record of his existence was erased from Heaven *and* Earth. His footsteps were scrubbed out with stones. But information is impossible to destroy...
What does a 10,000-year-dead holy man have to do with *us*, Tony? I thought we were looking to the future--this is *ancient history.*
About ten years ago, rumors started spreading in Heaven. Of a baby, and a burning dragon in the sky.
Of spontaneous healing in the boy's presence and man-eating tigers rolling over like newborn kittens at his feet.
Of long-dead fields springing to life after the boy urinated on them.
Huff... Kind of... *huff...* gross...

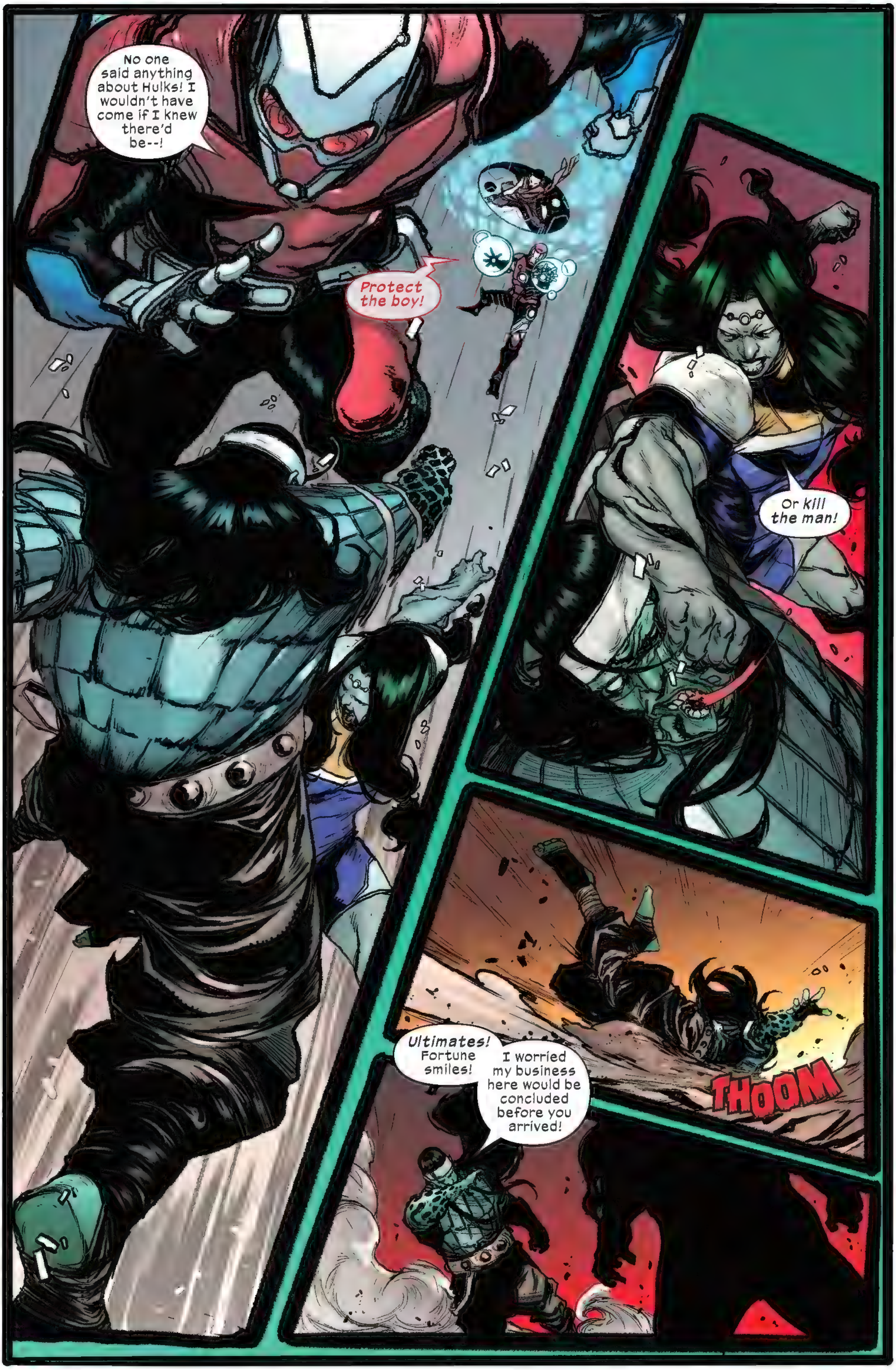

Banner searched all of Heaven for the boy, but Shen Qi's followers--"those of the red robe"--found him first and hid him on Earth, on a remote mountain in rural Tibet...
Smell that fresh air!
If it's such a secret, how do you know all this, Tony?
Well, Hank, a few weeks ago, we received a message on the UltNet with this information and coordinates, asking for assistance. We're almost there.
Why would Banner be afraid of a... child?
"From what I understand, despite the gods' best efforts, everyone in Heaven has heard the story. It's almost as old as the celestial cities themselves.
"Shen Qi, the Ultimate Iron Fist--reborn to lead his people out of spiritual poverty and violence and into enlightenment."
Never underestimate the power of a good story.
I think he's right to be afraid.
I think he knows a threat when he sees one.

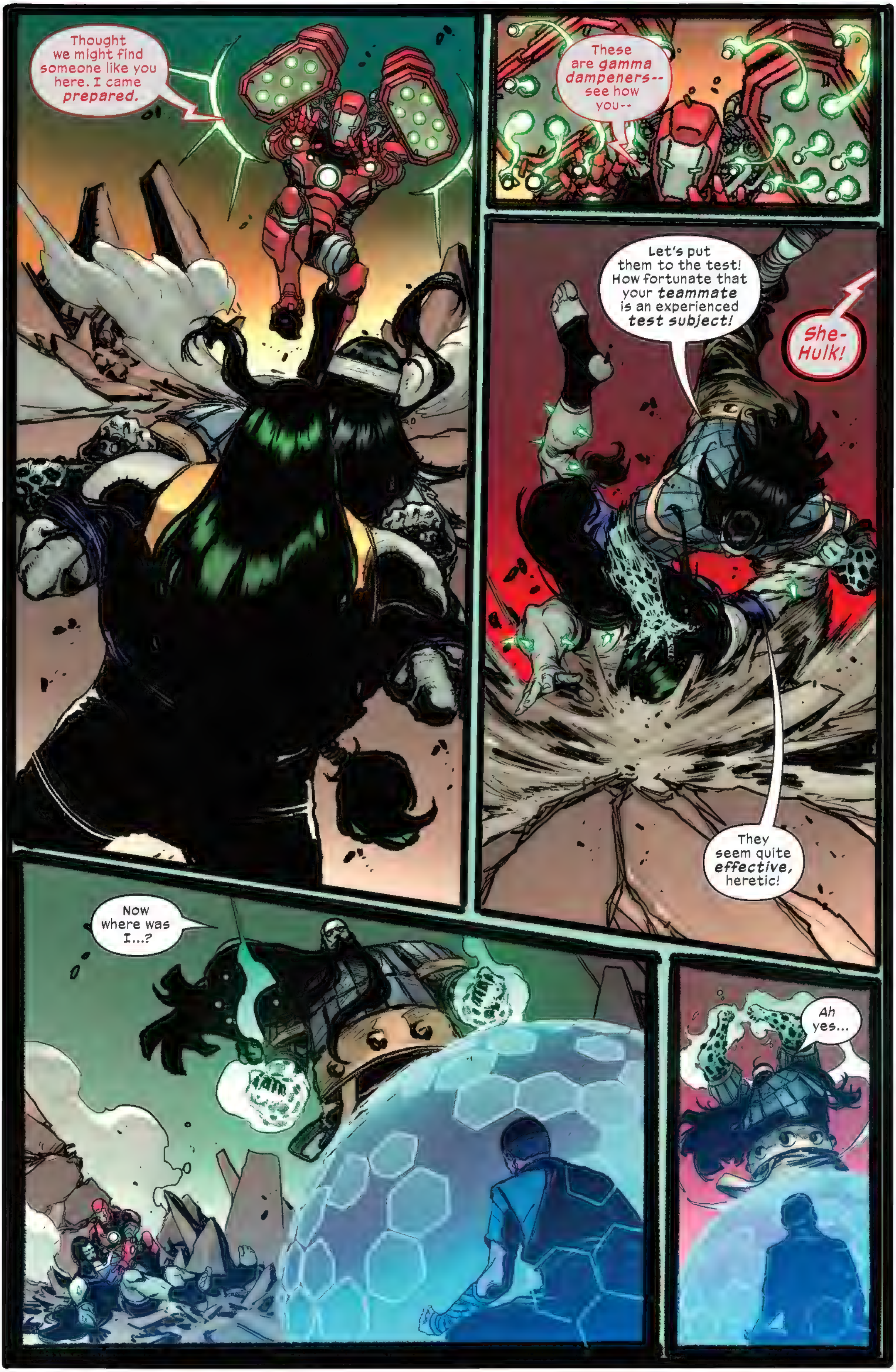

Can we all just take a second to appreciate how beautiful it is out here?
≠Huff≠ Who...≠Huff...≠
Who are you again?
Danny Rand. I'm a friend of Luke Cage.
Friend of...oh. So you were part of the...
...you were in...?
Yeah. So excuse me for admiring the view a little. Before today, I mostly saw walls, bars and beatings...
Luke insisted you come on this mission. Did you go through the Avengers program...?
No. I'm just a normal guy.
I just-- have you ever felt called to something? Like you were supposed to be there?
When I heard that story... I don't know. I felt called. Like I might be useful. Like it was where I was supposed to be.
I think we're all where we're supposed to be...
...and I think someone might have beat us to it.

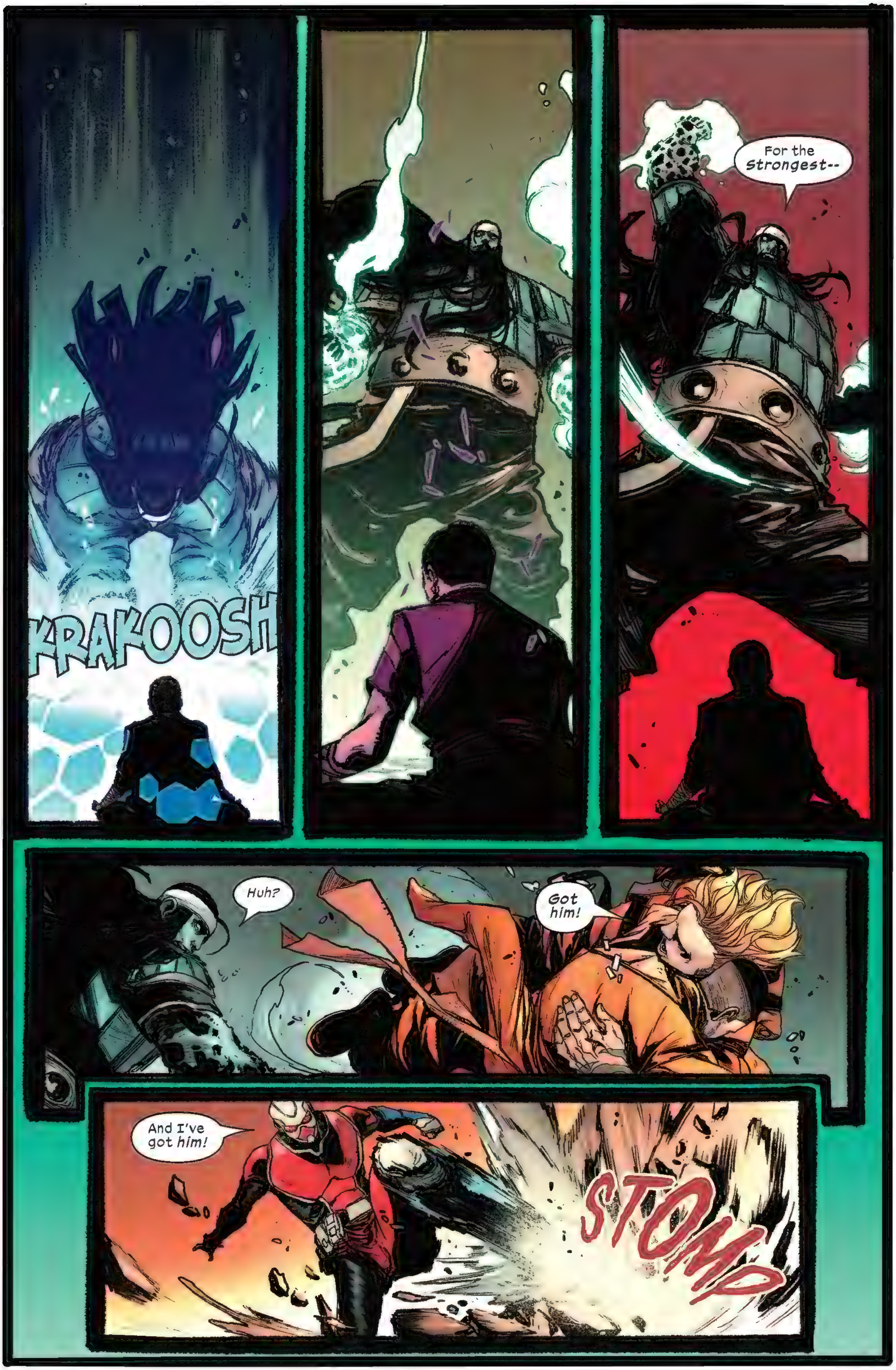

No life signs...
Shen Qi's red robes *and* the Children of Eternal Light...?
Banner...
The boy! Where--?
CRASH

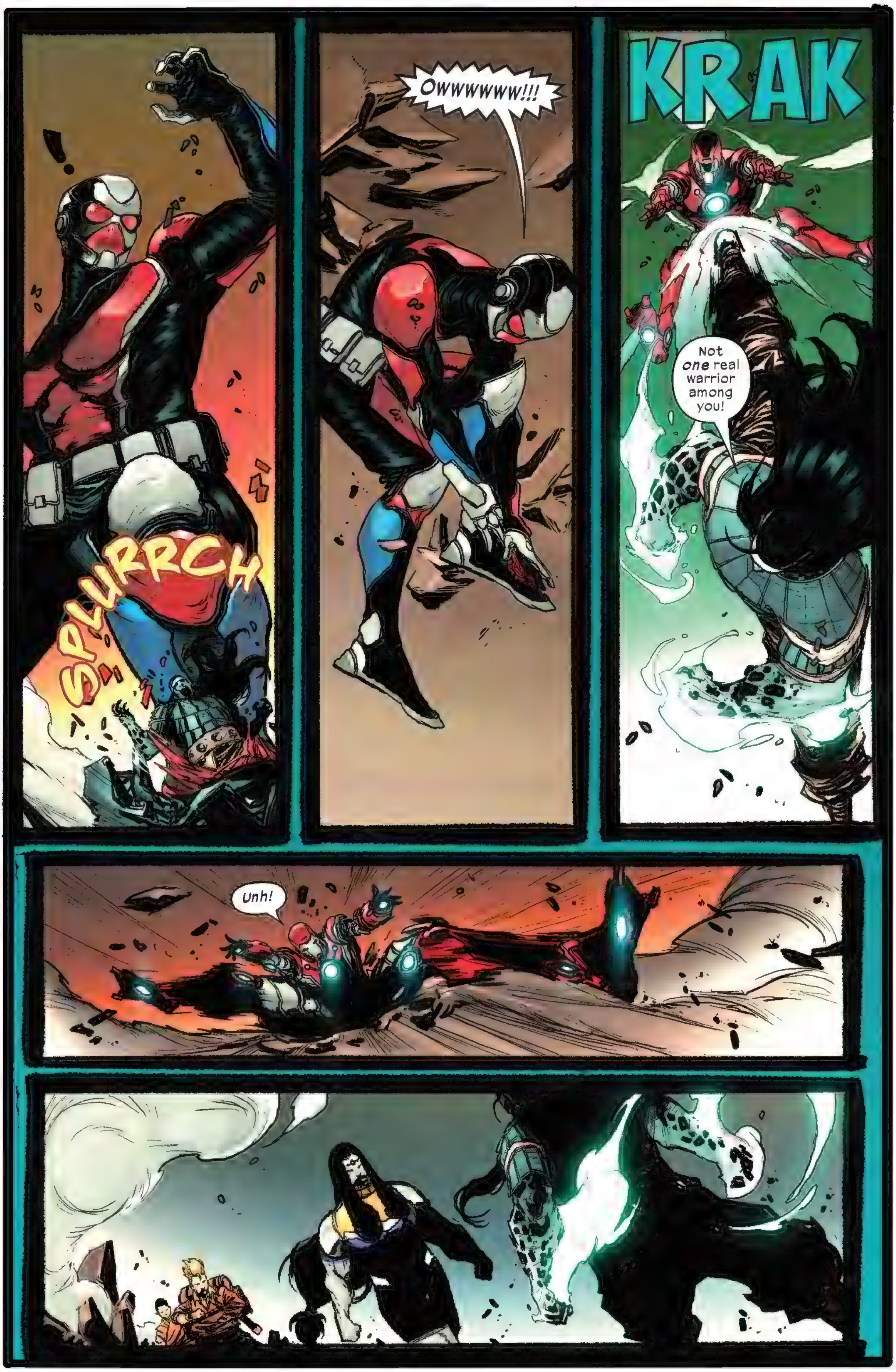

Pfah! Weak-willed fools! Is your faith so *puny* that a little boy's *charismatic aura* causes you to betray your master?!
My faith has been forged stronger!
URANIUM BROTHER #235.
IMMORTAL WEAPON OF THE HULK.

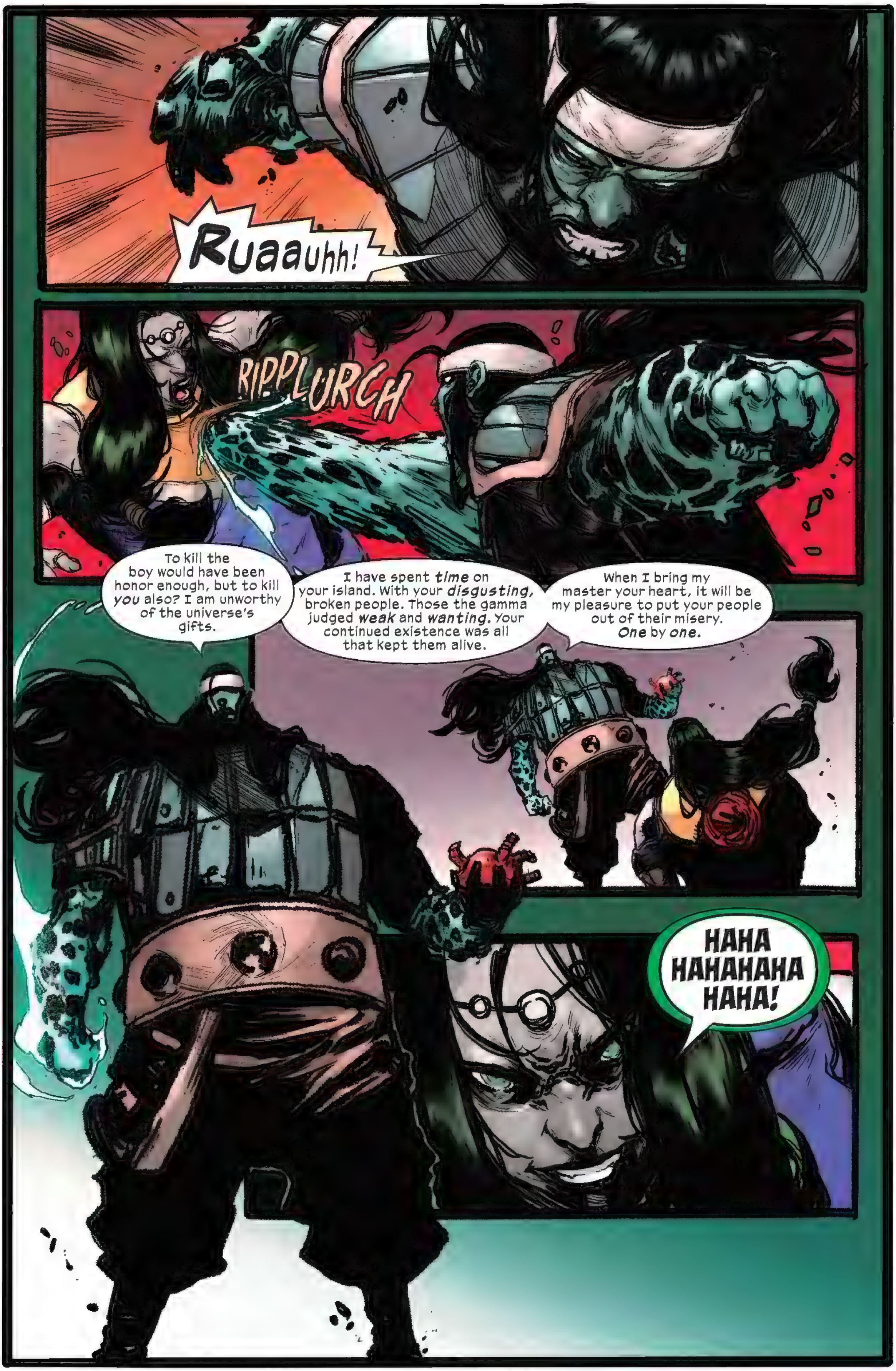

I don't understand... Aren't the guys in white the *Hulk's* people? Why are they--?
We'll figure it out later, Hank! Let's go!
The Incredible Enlightened Hulk has denounced you as a *false teacher,* child, and declared your ideas a *threat* to--
BOOOOOM
!!
Eh?

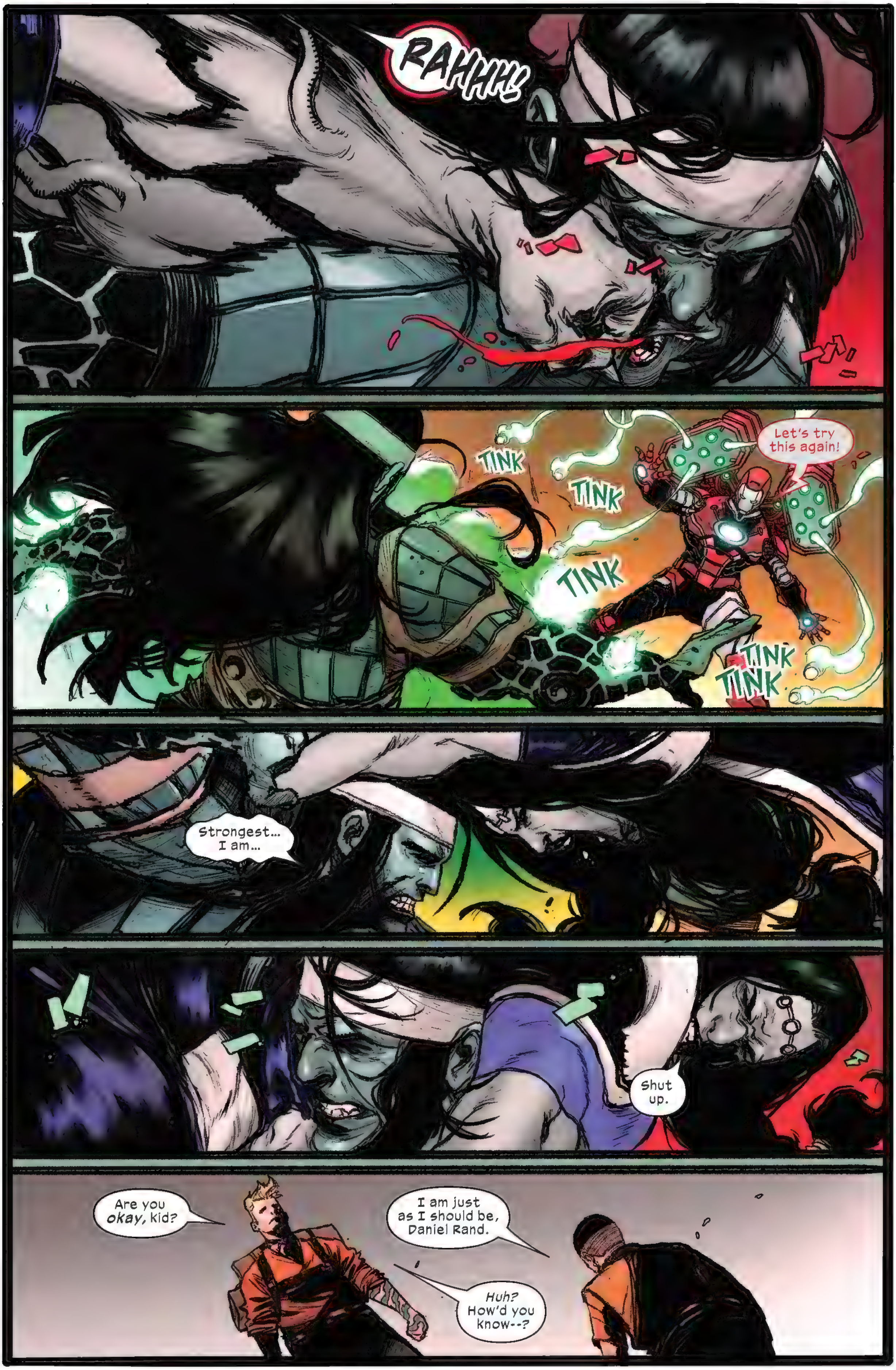

No one said anything about Hulks! I wouldn't have come if I knew there'd be--!
Protect the boy!
Or kill the man!
THOOM
Ultimates! Fortune smiles!
I worried my business here would be concluded before you arrived!

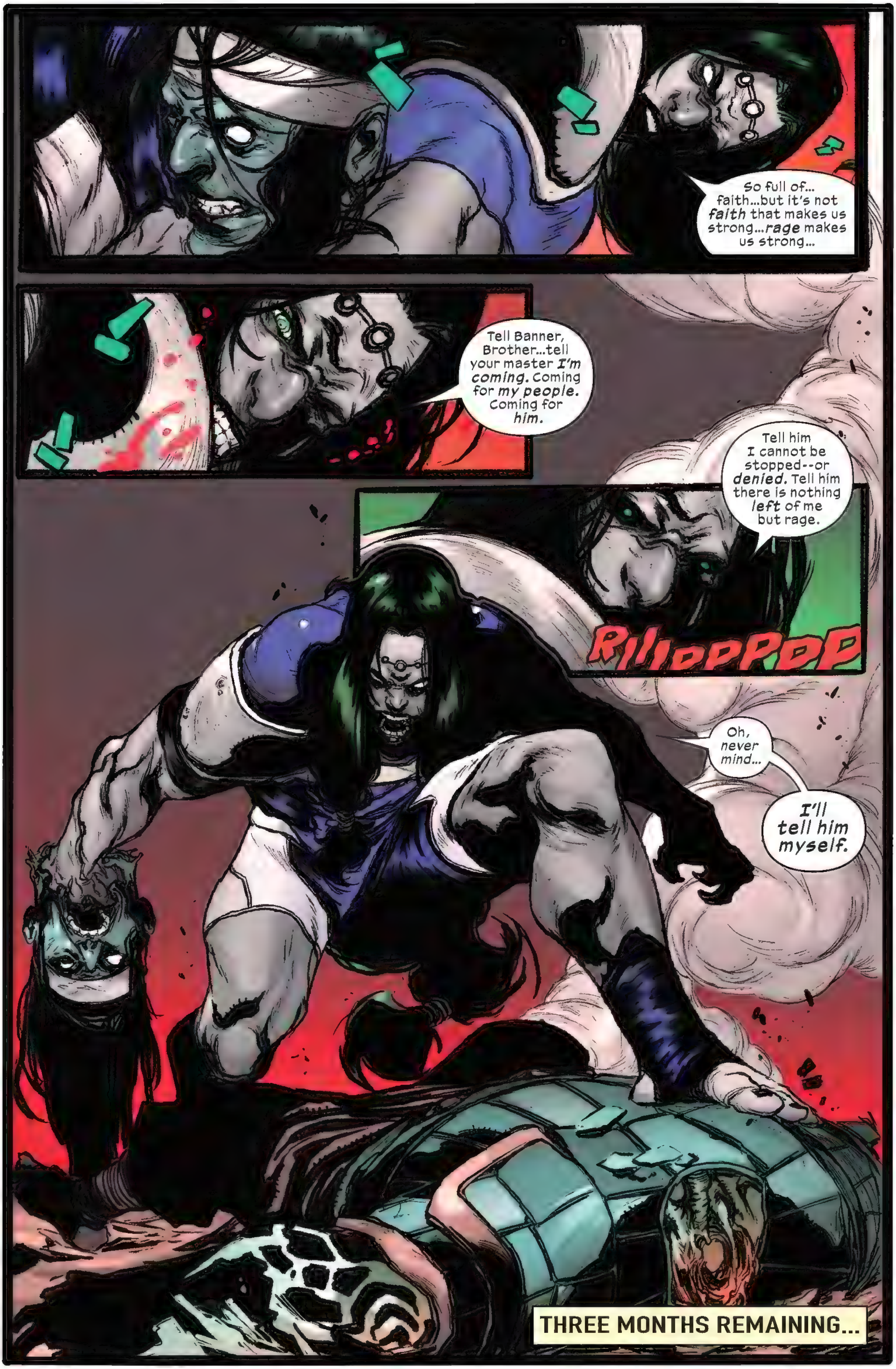

Thought we might find someone like you here. I came *prepared.*
These are *gamma dampeners--* see how you--
Let's put them to the test! How fortunate that your ***teammate*** is an experienced ***test subject!***
She-Hulk!
They seem quite ***effective,*** heretic!
Now where was I...?
Ah yes...


KRAKOOSH
For the Strongest--
Huh?
Got him!
And I've got him!
STOMP


SPLURRCH
Owwwwww!!!
KRAK
Not *one* real warrior among you!
Unh!


Ruaauhh!
RIPPLURCH
To kill the boy would have been honor enough, but to kill *you* also? I am unworthy of the universe's gifts.
I have spent *time* on your island. With your *disgusting,* broken people. Those the gamma judged *weak* and *wanting.* Your continued existence was all that kept them alive.
When I bring my master your heart, it will be my pleasure to put your people out of their misery. *One* by *one.*
HAHA HAHAHAHA HAHA!


RAHHH!
TINK
TINK
TINK
Let's try this again!
TINK
TINK
Strongest... I am...
Shut up.
Are you *okay*, kid?
I am just as I should be, Daniel Rand.
Huh? How'd you know--?


So full of... faith...but it's not *faith* that makes us strong...*rage* makes us strong...
Tell Banner, Brother...tell your master *I'm coming.* Coming for *my people.* Coming for *him.*
Tell him I cannot be stopped--or *denied.* Tell him there is nothing *left* of me but rage.
RIIIPPPPP
Oh, never mind...
I'll tell him myself.
THREE MONTHS REMAINING...

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NEXT

MARVEL
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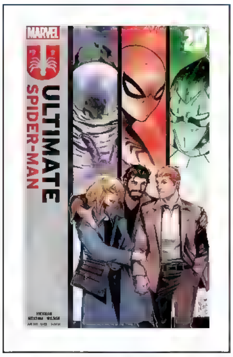
THE ULTIMATES
CAMP | FRIGERI | BLEE

ON SALE IN **SEPTEMBER**

ON SALE THIS MONTH


MARVEL
20
ULTIMATE
SPIDER-MAN

ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN #20

BY **JONATHAN HICKMAN**
& **DAVID MESSINA**

MARVEL
19
ULTIMATE
BLACK PANTHER

ULTIMATE BLACK PANTHER #19

BY **BRYAN HILL**
& **CARLOS NIETO**

MARVEL
18
ULTIMATE

ULTIMATE X-MEN #18

BY **PEACH MOMOKO**

MARVEL
8
ULTIMATE
WOLVERINE

ULTIMATE WOLVERINE #8

BY **CHRIS CONDON** &
ALESSANDRO CAPPUCCIO

MARVEL
3
ULTIMATE
SPIDER-MAN: INCURSION

ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN: INCURSION #3

BY **DENIZ CAMP, CODY ZIGLAR**
& **JONAS SCHARF**

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU! EMAIL US AT **ULTIMATEOFFICE@MARVEL.COM** AND MARK YOUR LETTERS **"OKAY TO PRINT"**!

8

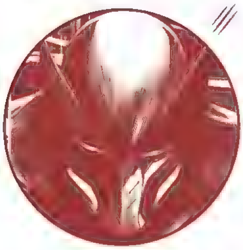
A diabolical genius known as **THE MAKER** used time travel to create his ideal Earth by systematically preventing anyone from ever becoming a super hero and by establishing a secret council of super villains, **THE MAKER'S COUNCIL**, that rules the world from the shadows.

Three of those council members--**COLOSSUS**, **MAGIK** and **OMEGA RED**--run the **EURASIAN REPUBLIC**, one of two places in the world for all known mutant activity. Through their government's top-secret division "**DIRECTORATE X**," headed by **DR. ALONYA PROSTOVICH** and designed to exploit the unique genetic powers exhibited in mutantkind, they have turned the mutant known as **LOGAN** into their most lethal weapon, the brainwashed **WINTER SOLDIER**.

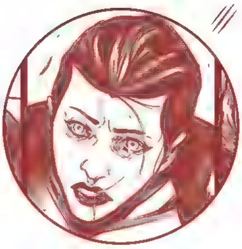
His mission? To destroy a group of mutant freedom fighters known as **THE OPPOSITION**--until the Opposition broke Logan of his programming and reminded him that he was originally one of them. Now, taking the name **WOLVERINE**, he's rejoined them for a covert operation led by **ABIGAIL BRAND**. But Dr. Prostovich has plans to use the **CEREBELLUM** to regain control of her prized Winter Soldier...

ULTIMATE WOLVERINE

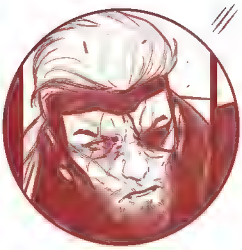
CAST:



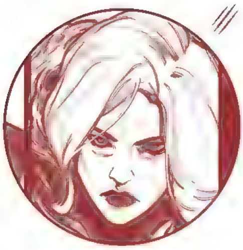
WOLVERINE/
THE WINTER SOLDIER
LOGAN



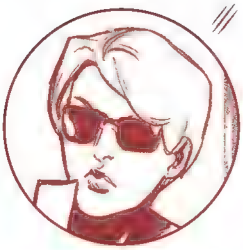
SPRITE
KITTY PRYDE



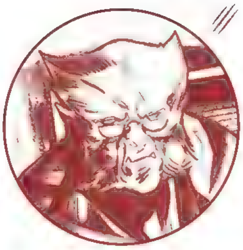
GAMBIT
REMY LeBEAU



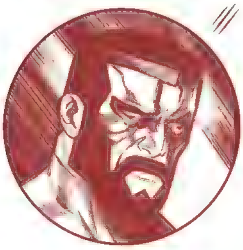
BLACK WIDOW
NATASHA ROMANOFF



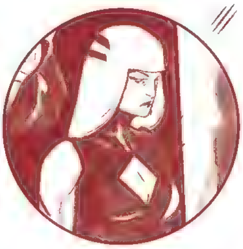
ABIGAIL BRAND
OPPOSITION
SECOND-IN-COMMAND



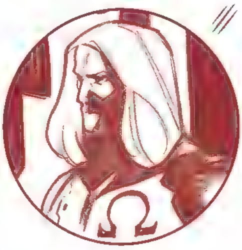
BEAST
HANK McCOY



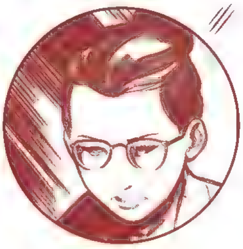
COLOSSUS
PIOTR RASPUTIN



MAGIK
ILLYANA RASPUTIN

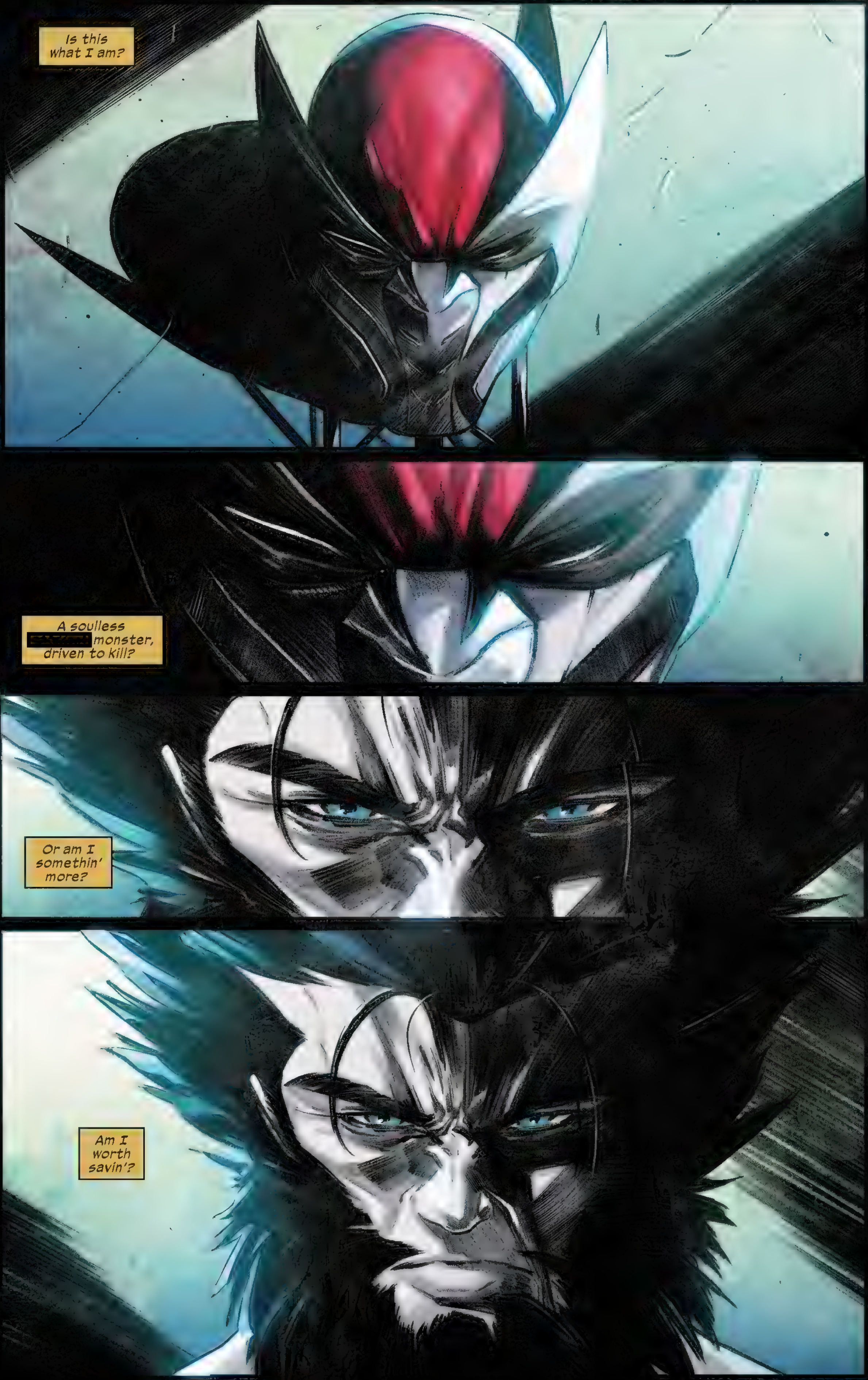


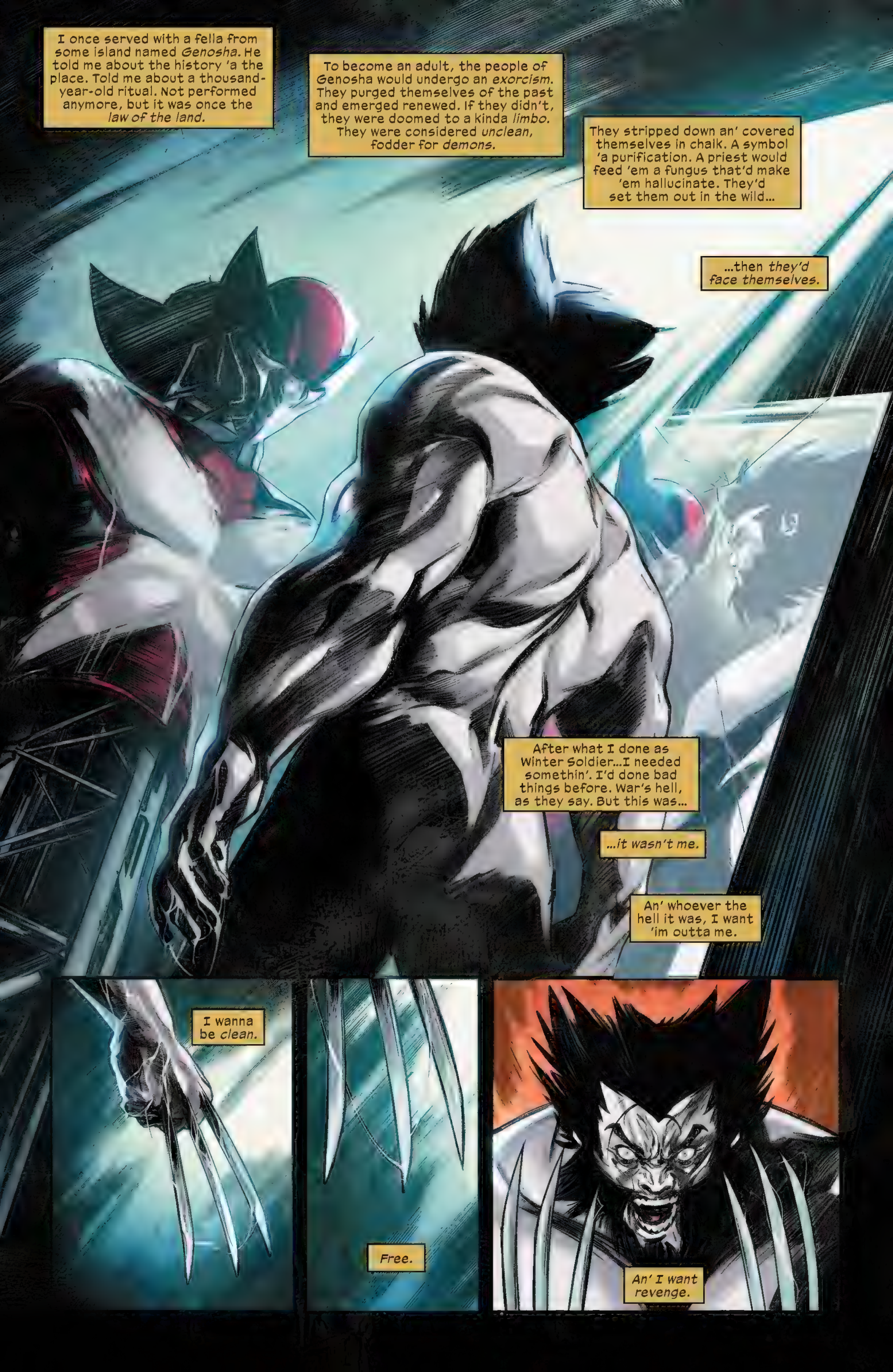
OMEGA RED
ARKADY ROSSOVICH

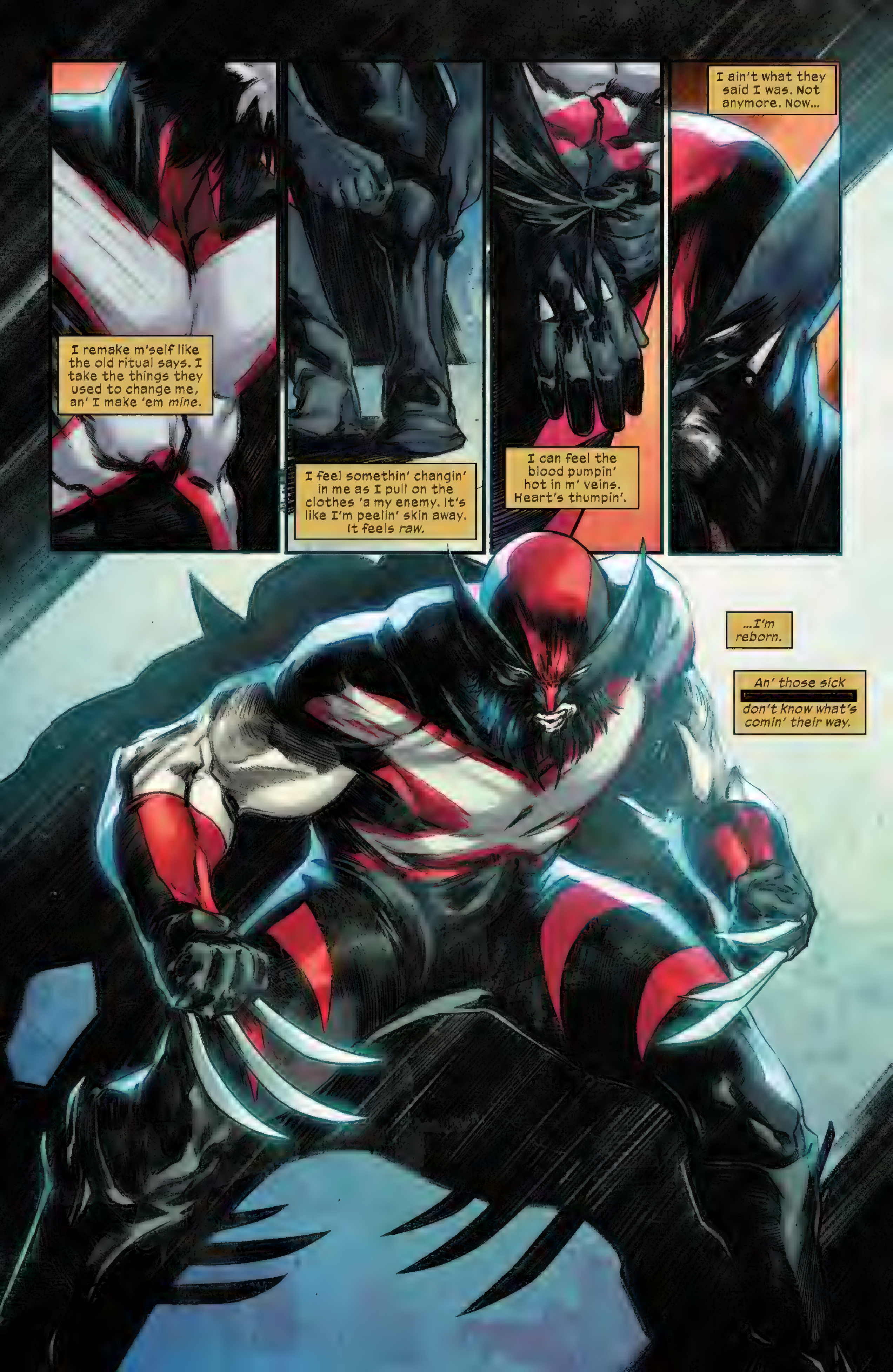


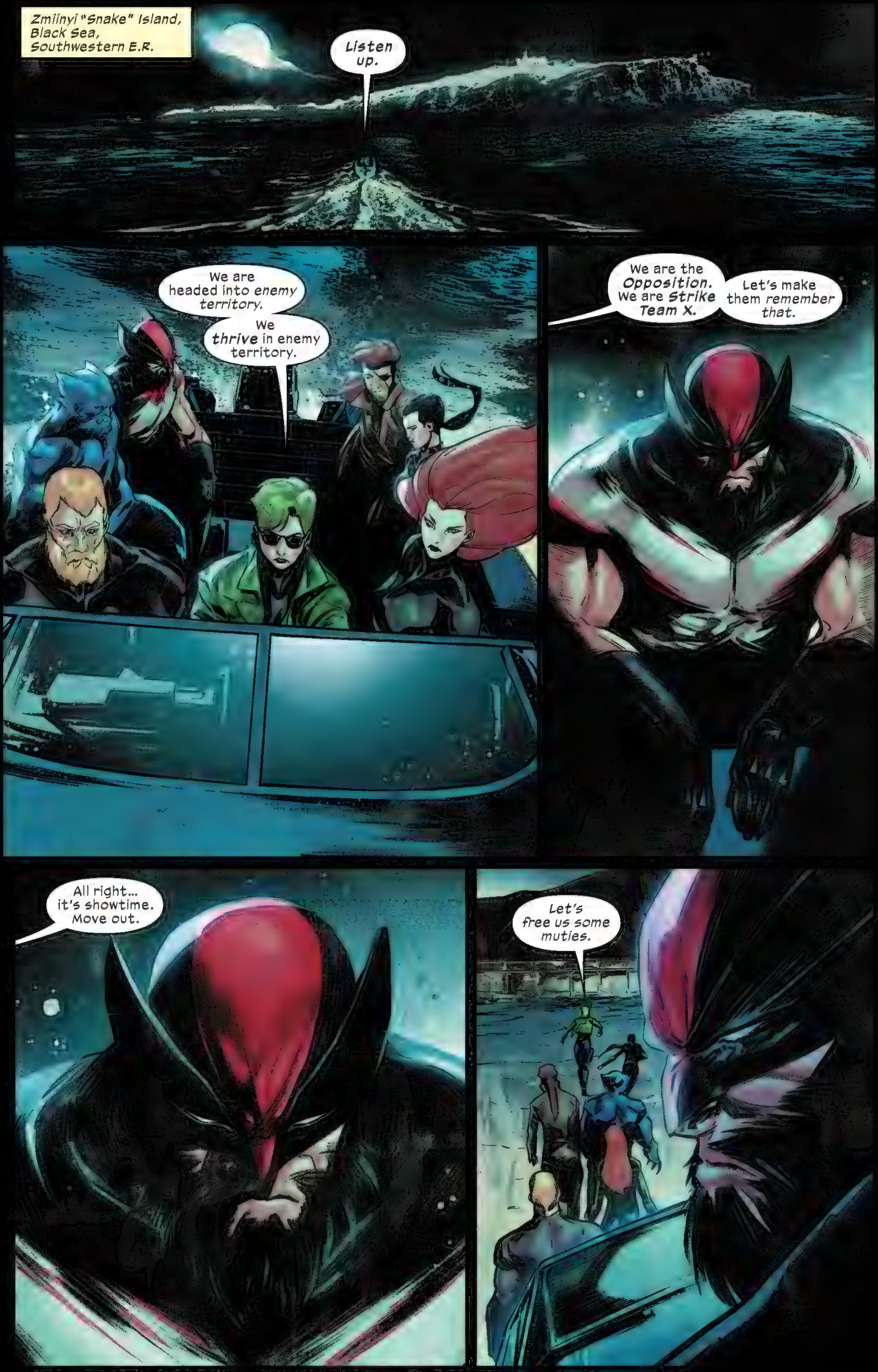
DR. ALONYA
PROSTOVICH
DIRECTORATE X
RESEARCH HEAD

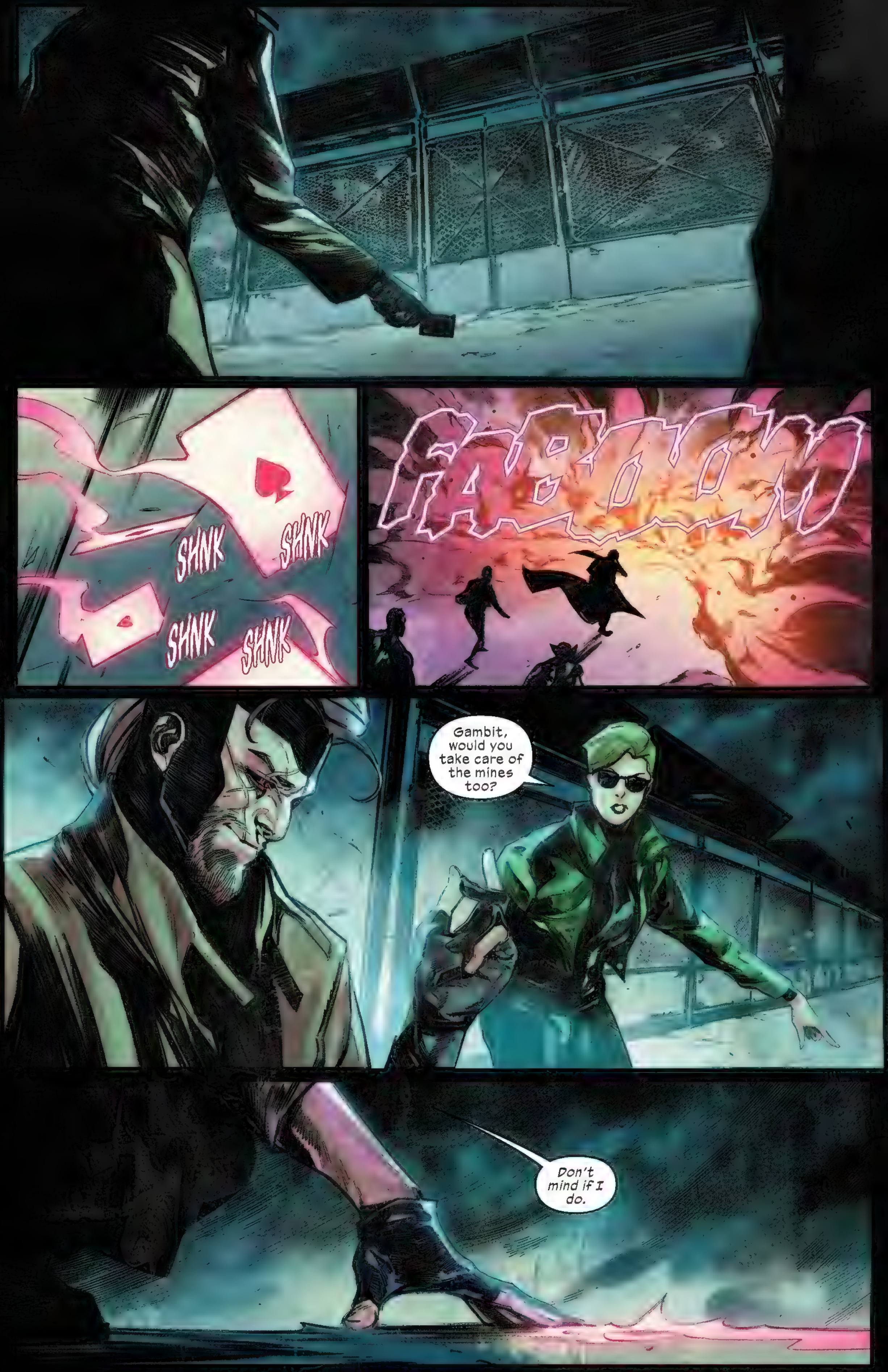
AUGUST 2025

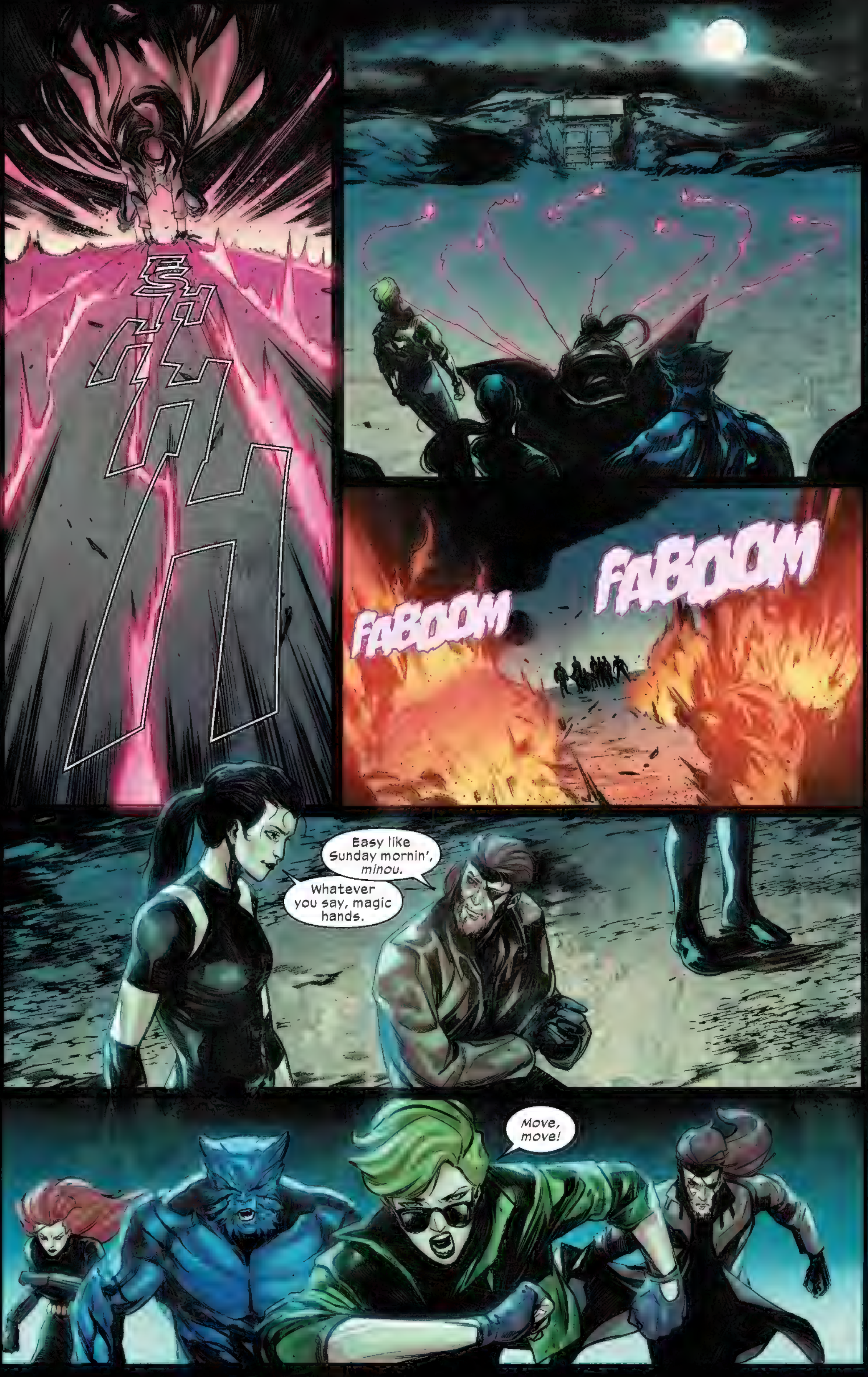

Is this what I am?
A soulless [redacted] monster, driven to kill?
Or am I somethin' more?
Am I worth savin'?

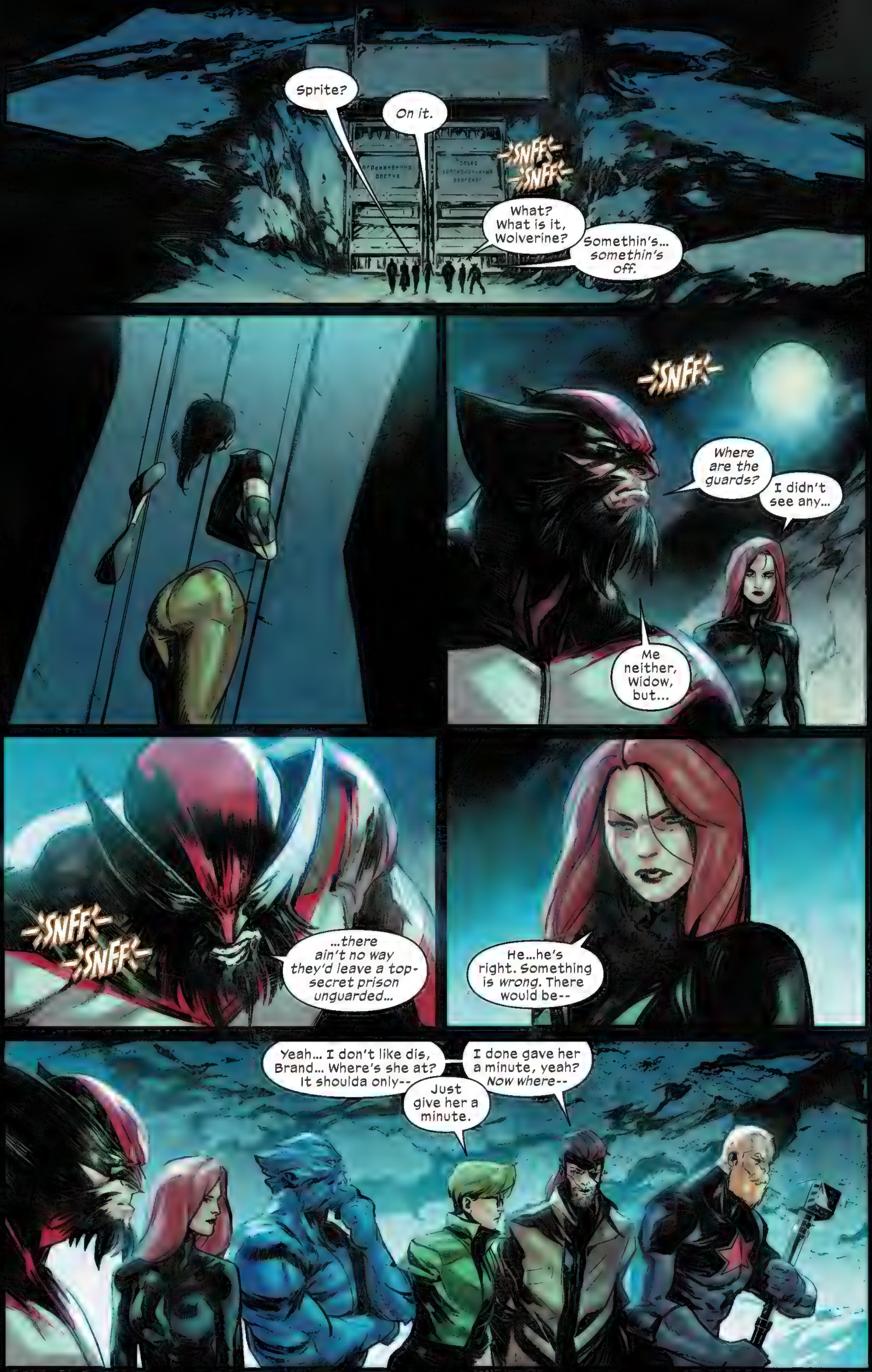

I once served with a fella from some island named *Genosha.* He told me about the history 'a the place. Told me about a thousand-year-old ritual. Not performed anymore, but it was once the *law of the land.*
To become an adult, the people of Genosha would undergo an *exorcism.* They purged themselves of the past and emerged renewed. If they didn't, they were doomed to a kinda *limbo.* They were considered *unclean,* fodder for *demons.*
They stripped down an' covered themselves in chalk. A symbol 'a purification. A priest would feed 'em a fungus that'd make 'em hallucinate. They'd set them out in the wild...
...then *they'd face themselves.*
After what I done as Winter Soldier...I needed somethin'. I'd done bad things before. War's hell, as they say. But this was...
...it wasn't me.
An' whoever the hell it was, I want 'im outta me.
I wanna be *clean.*
Free.
An' I want revenge.

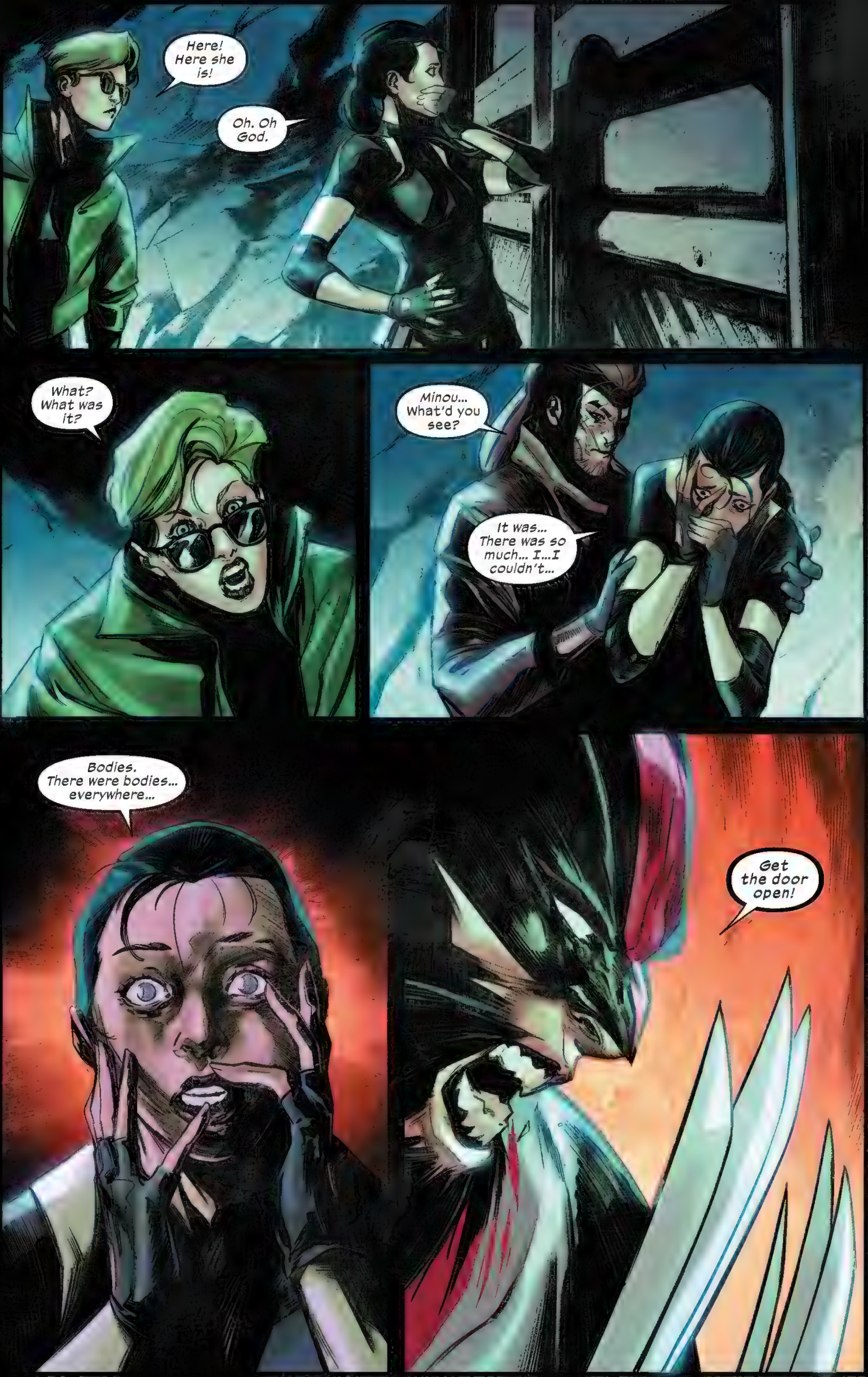

I remake m'self like the old ritual says. I take the things they used to change me, an' I make 'em *mine.*
I feel somethin' changin' in me as I pull on the clothes 'a my enemy. It's like I'm peelin' skin away. It feels *raw.*
I can feel the blood pumpin' hot in m' veins. Heart's thumpin'.
I ain't what they said I was. Not anymore. Now...
...I'm reborn.
An' those sick [redacted] don't know what's comin' their way.

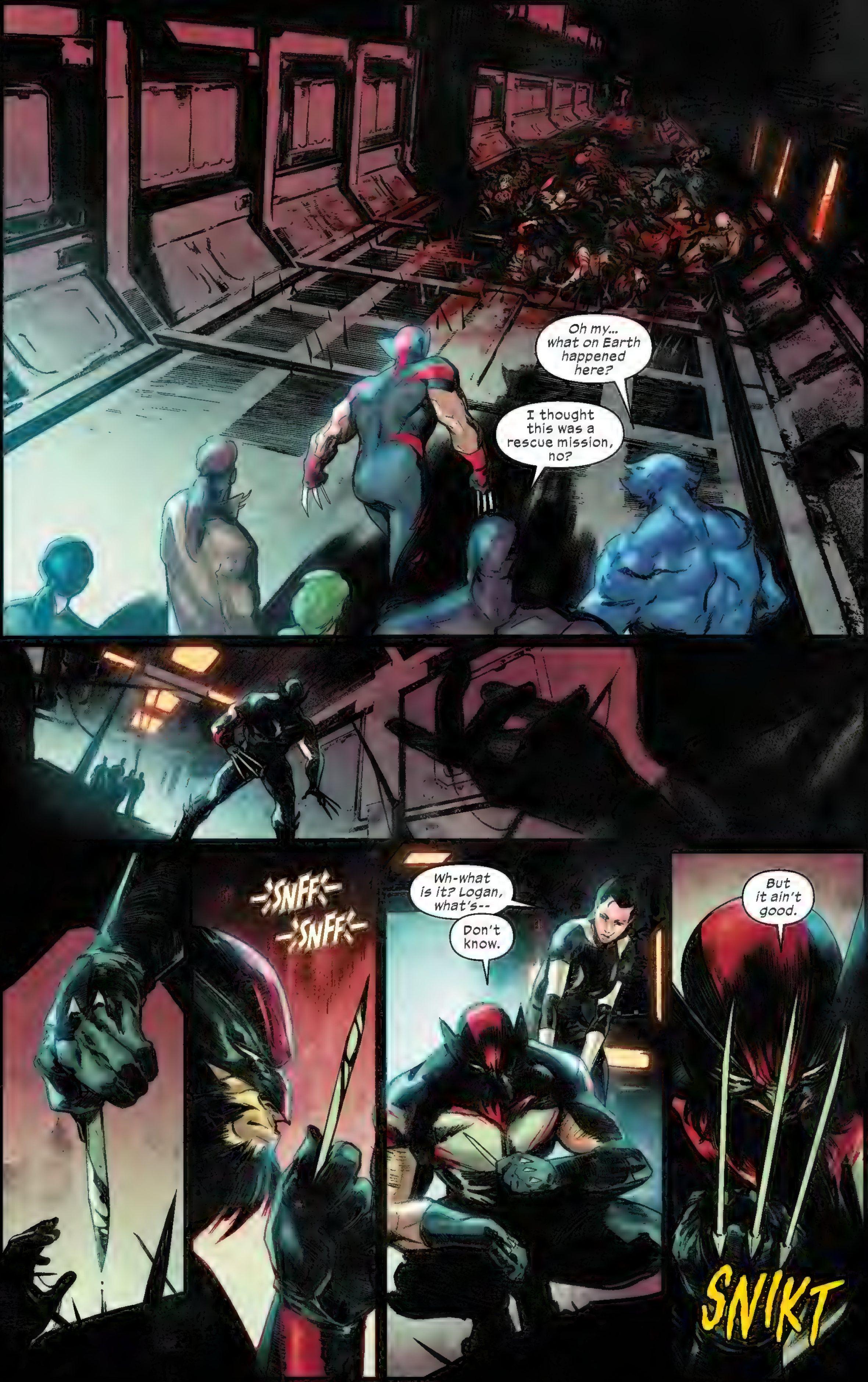

Zmiinyi "Snake" Island, Black Sea, Southwestern E.R.
Listen up.
We are headed into enemy territory.
We thrive in enemy territory.
We are the Opposition. We are Strike Team X.
Let's make them remember that.
All right... it's showtime. Move out.
Let's free us some muties.

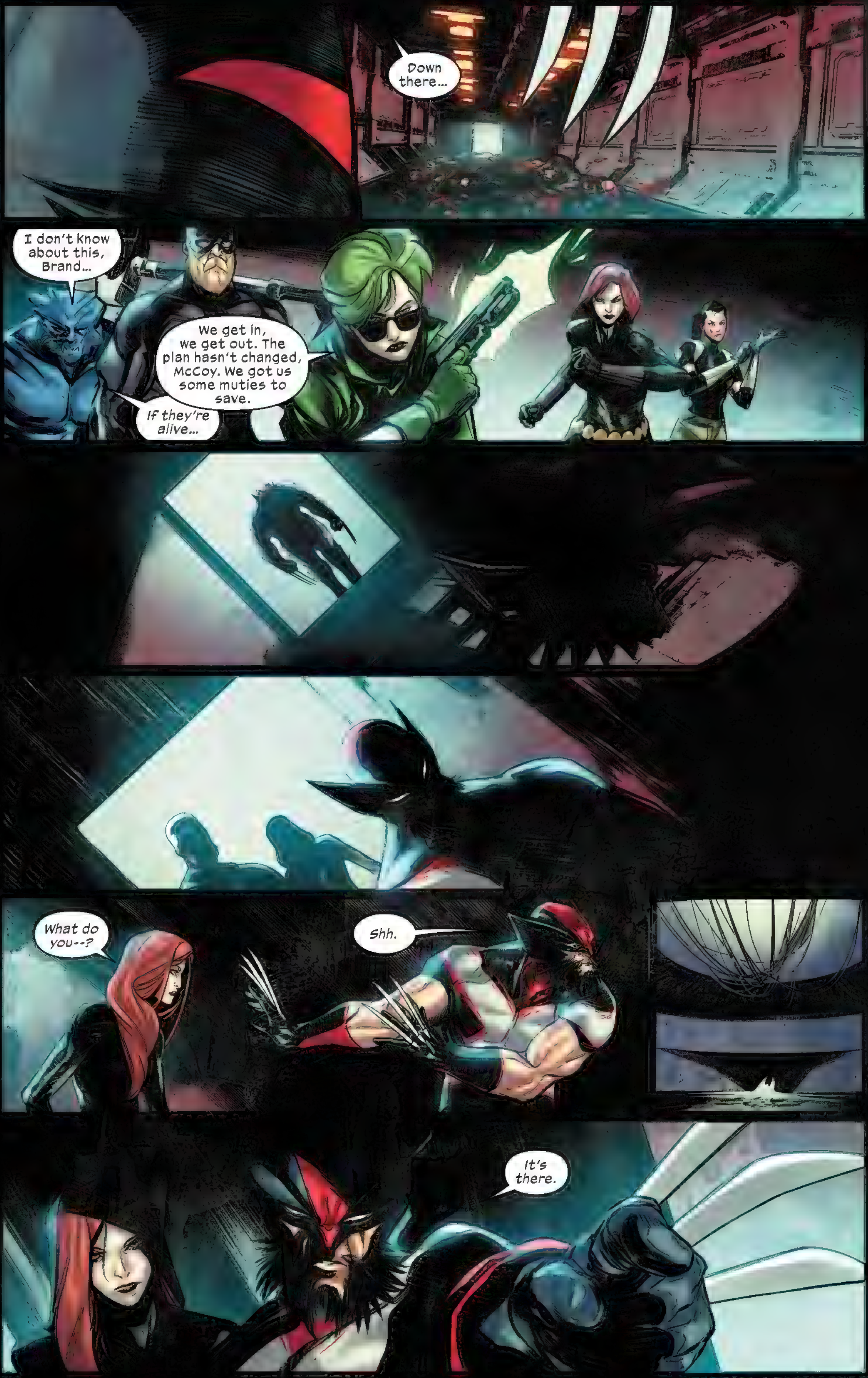

SHNK
SHNK
SHNK
SHNK
KABOOM
Gambit, would you take care of the mines too?
Don't mind if I do.

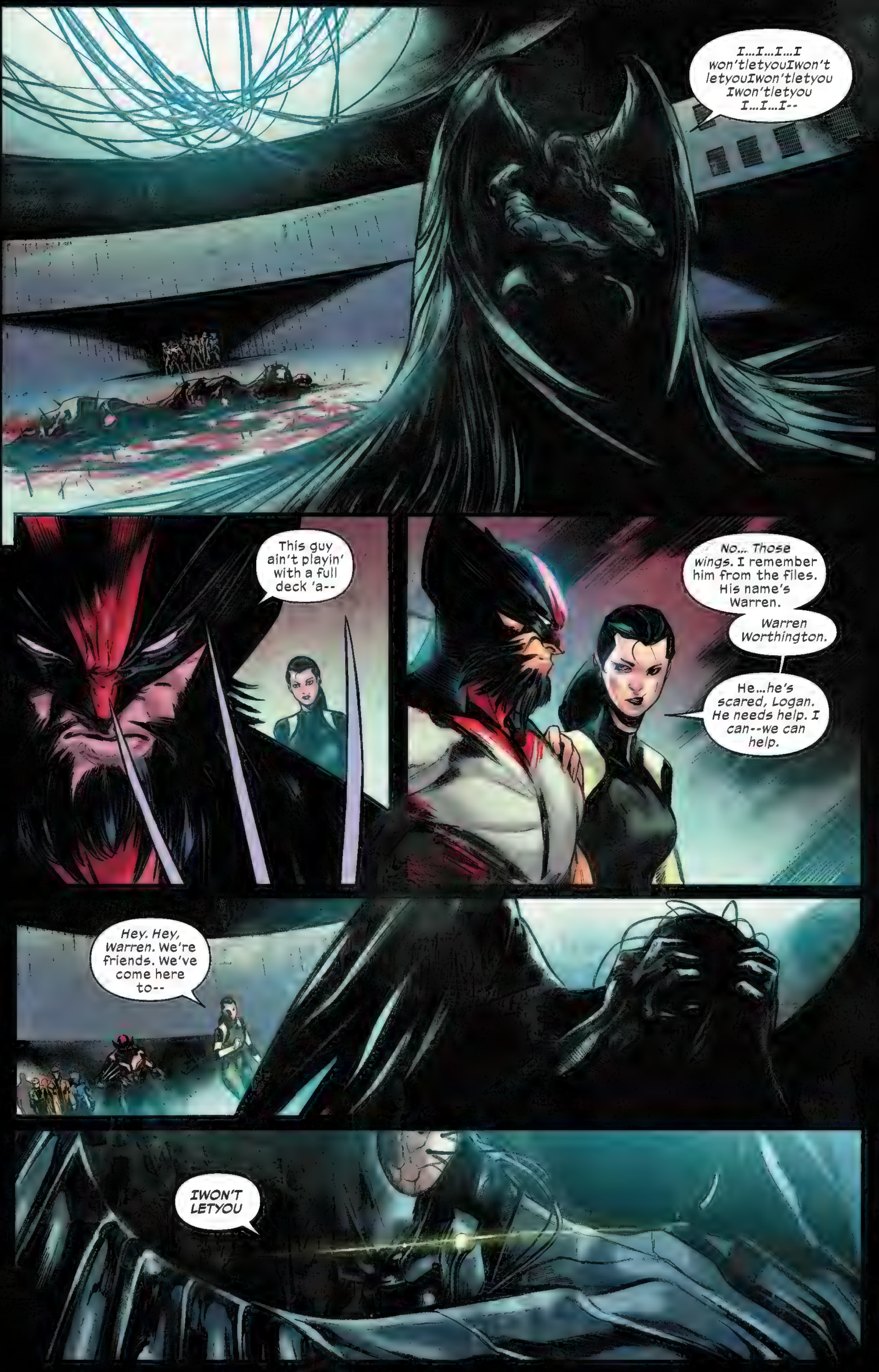

SHHHH
FABOOM
FABOOM
Easy like Sunday mornin', *minou.*
Whatever you say, magic hands.
Move, move!

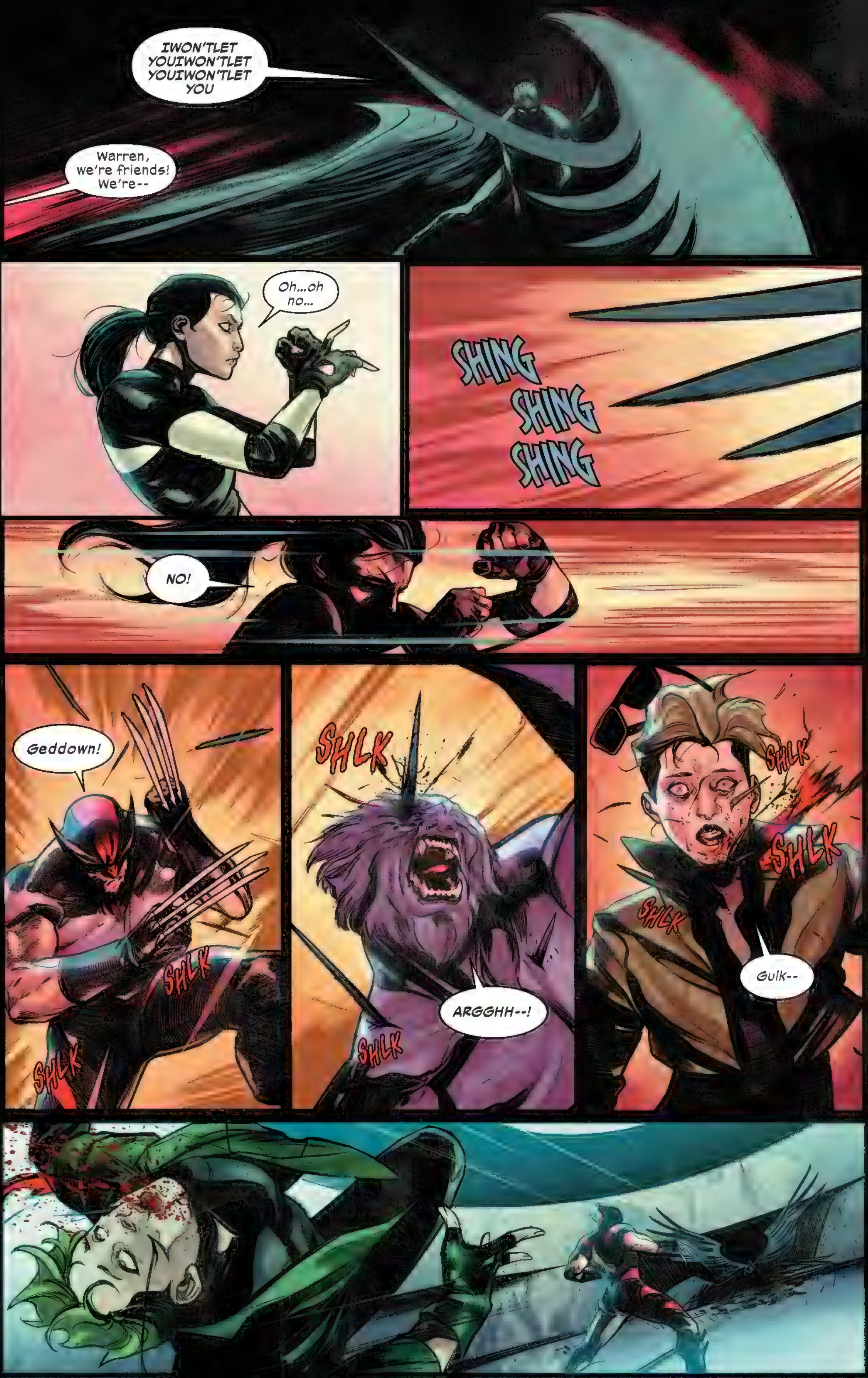

Sprite?
On it.
-SNFF-
-SNFF-
What? What is it, Wolverine?
Somethin's... somethin's off.
-SNFF-
Where are the guards?
I didn't see any...
Me neither, Widow, but...
-SNFF-
-SNFF-
...there ain't no way they'd leave a top-secret prison unguarded...
He...he's right. Something is *wrong.* There would be--
Yeah... I don't like dis, Brand... Where's she at? It shoulda only--
Just give her a minute.
I done gave her a minute, yeah? *Now where*--

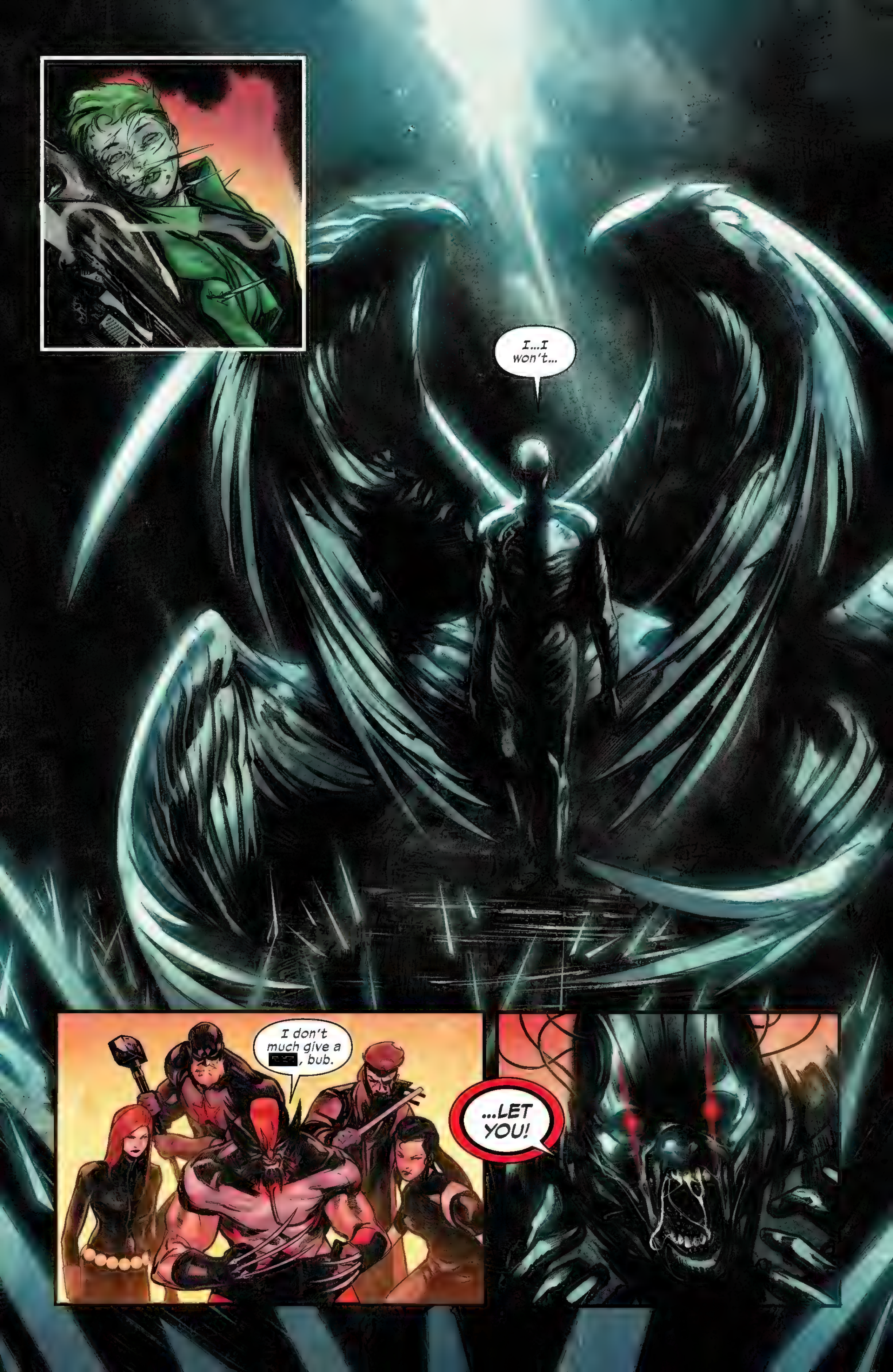

Here! Here she is!
Oh. Oh God.
What? What was it?
Minou... What'd you see?
It was... There was so much... I...I couldn't...
Bodies. There were bodies... everywhere...
Get the door open!

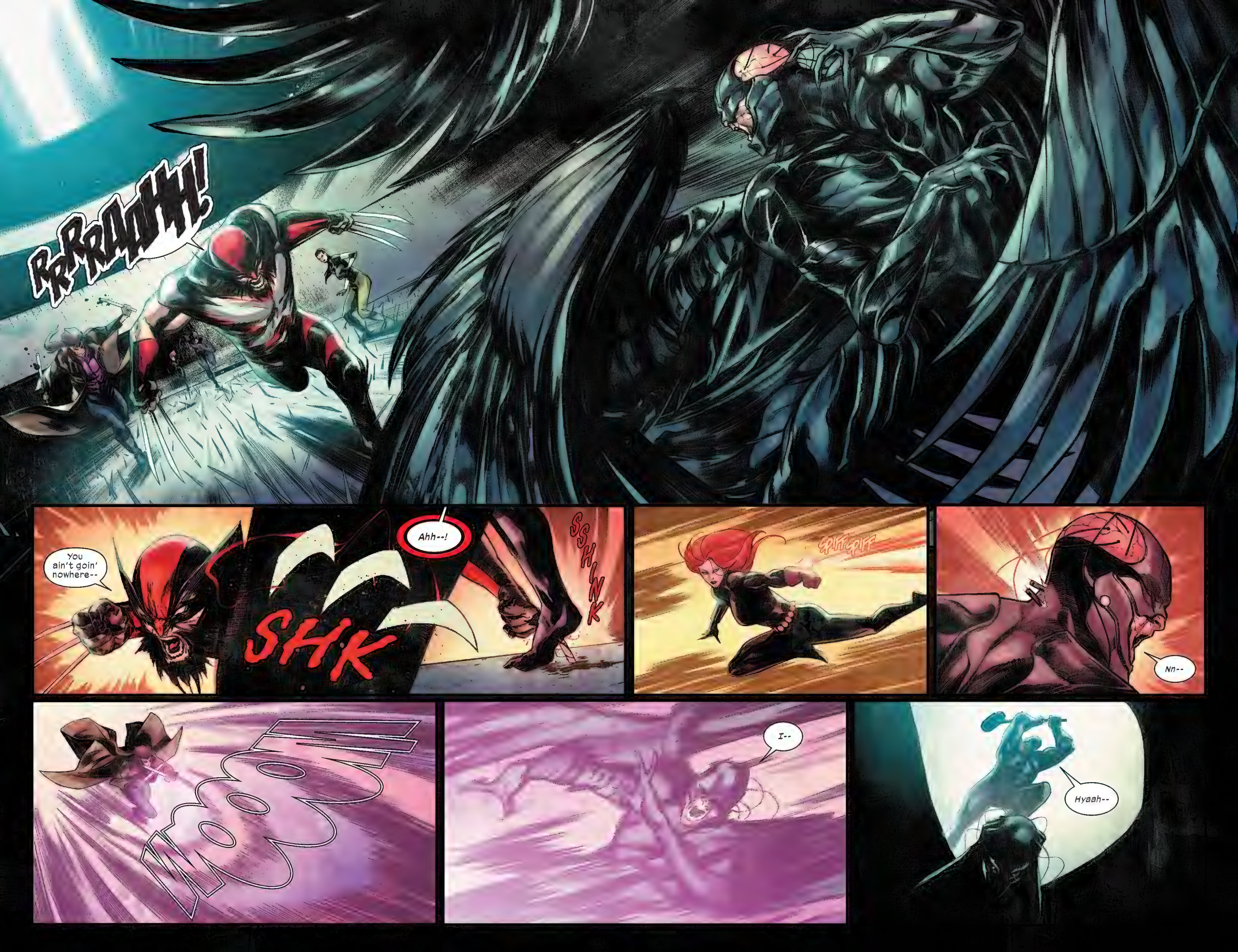

Oh my... what on Earth happened here?
I thought this was a rescue mission, no?
-SNFF-
-SNFF-
Wh-what is it? Logan, what's--
Don't know.
But it ain't good.
SNIKT

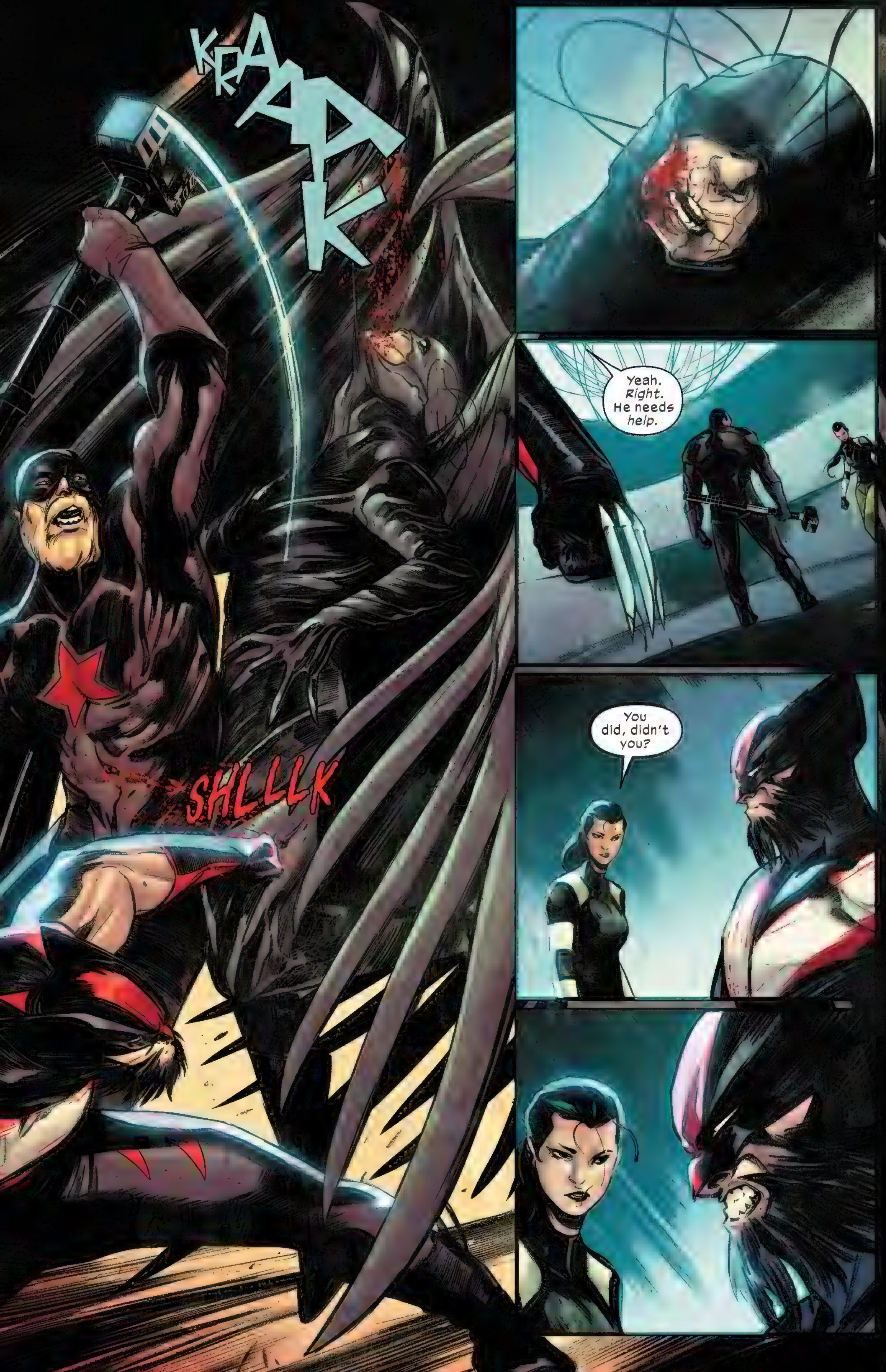

Down there...
I don't know about this, Brand...
We get in, we get out. The plan hasn't changed, McCoy. We got us some muties to save.
If they're alive...
What do you--?
Shh.
It's there.

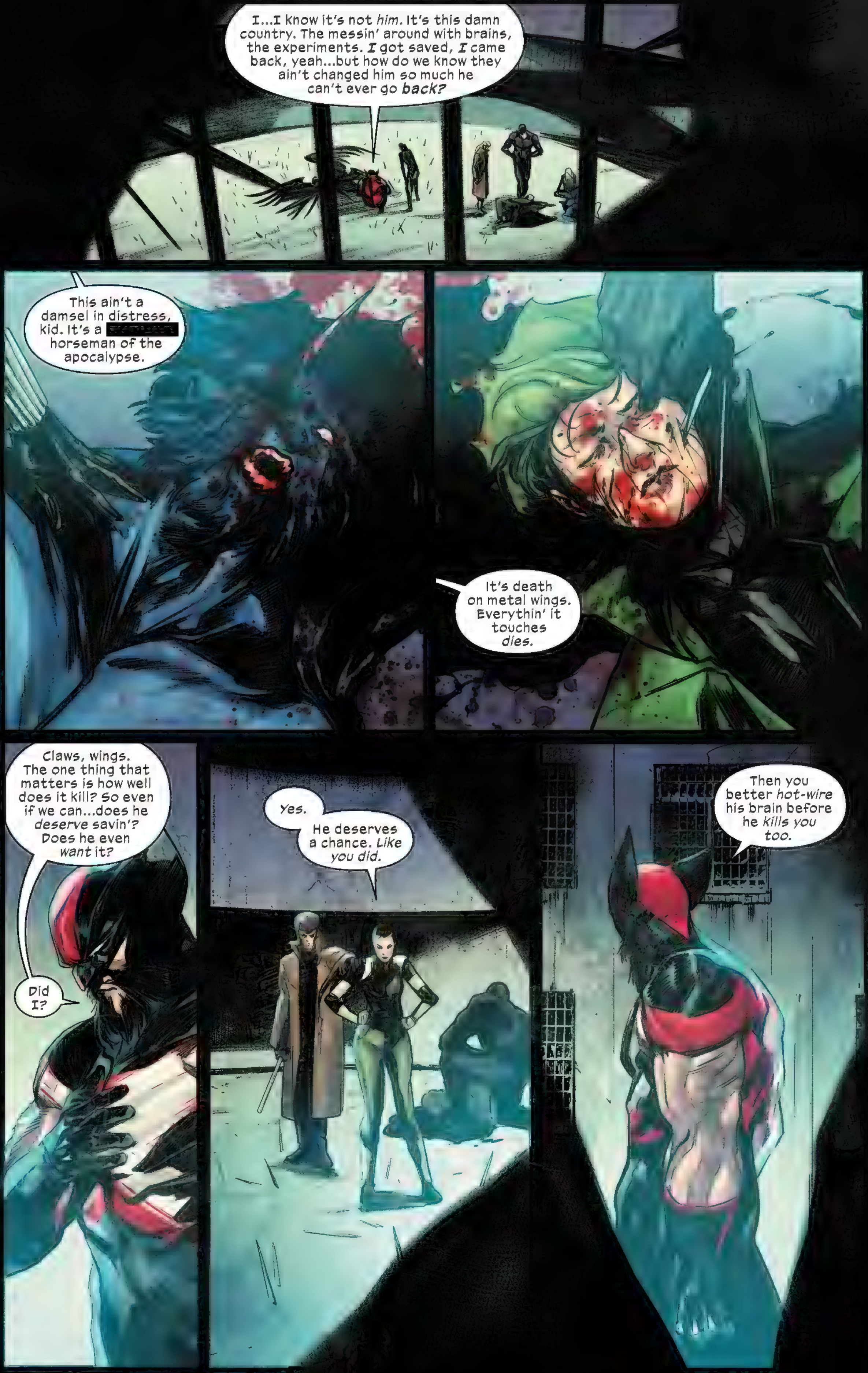

I...I...I...I won'tletyouIwon't letyouIwon'tletyou Iwon'tletyou I...I...I--
This guy ain't playin' with a full deck 'a--
No... Those wings. I remember him from the files. His name's Warren.
Warren Worthington.
He...he's scared, Logan. He needs help. I can--we can help.
Hey. Hey, Warren. We're friends. We've come here to--
IWON'T LETYOU

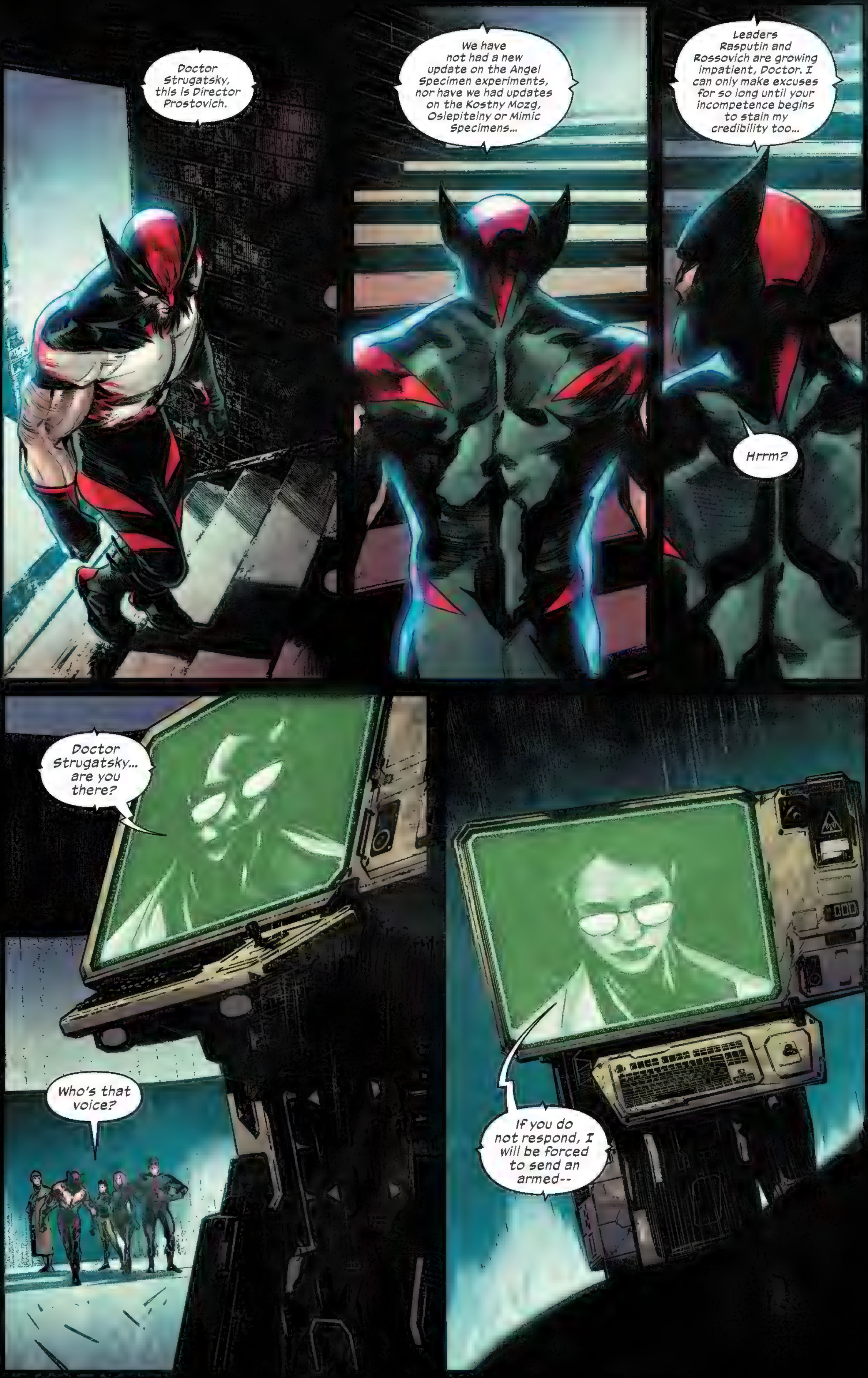

IWON'TLET YOUIWON'TLET YOUIWON'TLET YOU
Warren, we're friends! We're--
Oh...oh no...
SHING SHING SHING
NO!
Geddown!
SHLK
SHLK
SHLK
SHLK
ARGGHH--!
SHLK
SHLK
SHLK
Gulk--

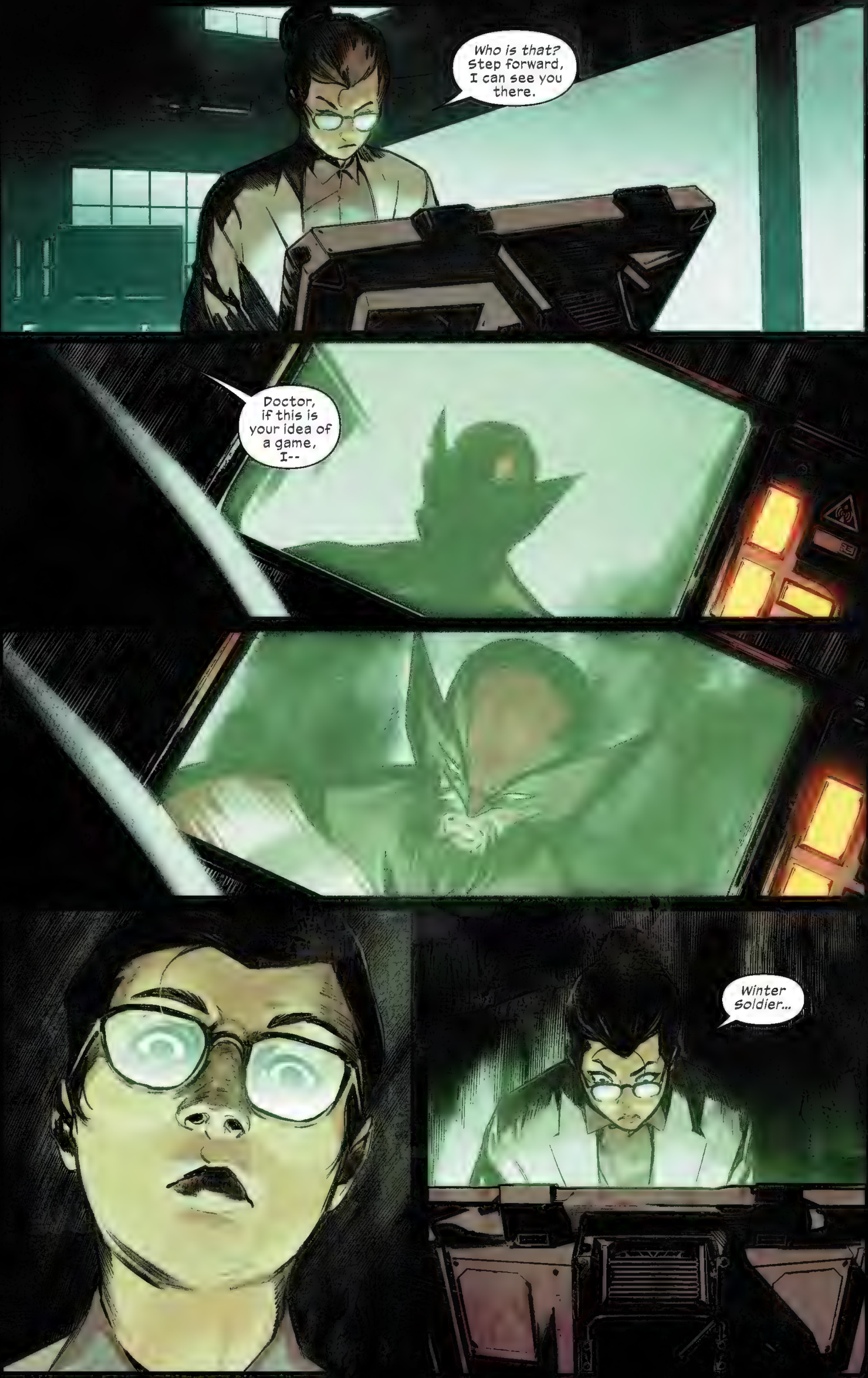

I...I won't...
I don't much give a [redacted], bub.
...LET YOU!

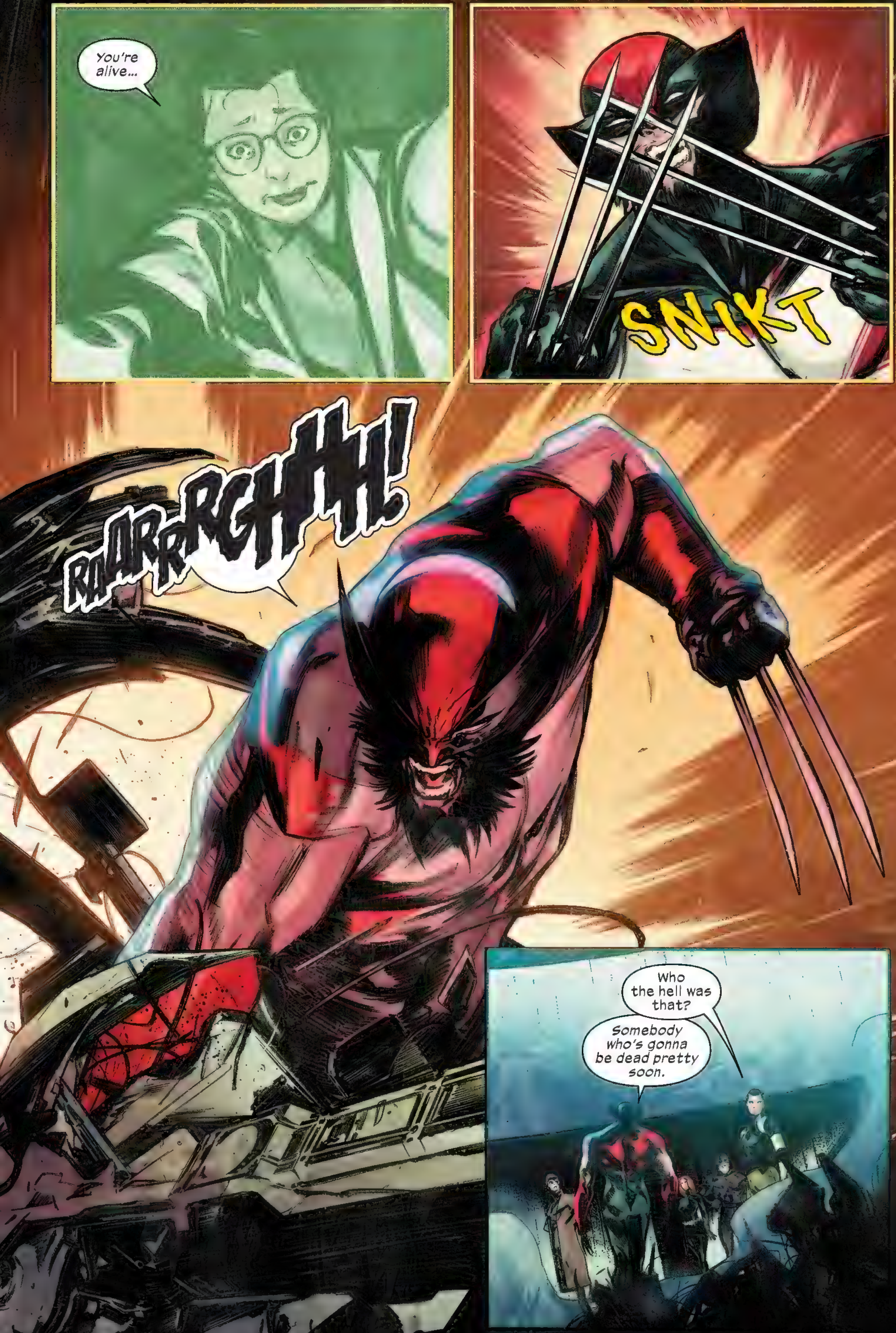

RRRAAHH!
You ain't goin' nowhere--
Ahh--!
SHK
SSHINK
SPIFF SPIFF
Nn--
WOOOOM
I--
Hyaah--


KRAAAK
SHLLLK
Yeah. *Right.* He needs help.
You did, didn't you?


I...I know it's not *him*. It's this damn country. The messin' around with brains, the experiments. *I* got saved, *I* came back, yeah...but how do we know they ain't changed him so much he can't ever go *back?*
This ain't a damsel in distress, kid. It's a [redacted] horseman of the apocalypse.
It's death on metal wings. Everythin' it touches *dies.*
Claws, wings. The one thing that matters is how well does it kill? So even if we can...does he *deserve savin'?* Does he even *want* it?
Did I?
Yes.
He deserves a chance. *Like you did.*
Then you better *hot-wire* his brain before he *kills you too.*


Doctor Strugatsky, this is Director Prostovich.
We have not had a new update on the Angel Specimen experiments, nor have we had updates on the Kostny Mozg, Oslepitelny or Mimic Specimens...
Leaders Rasputin and Rossovich are growing impatient, Doctor. I can only make excuses for so long until your incompetence begins to stain my credibility too...
Hrrm?
Doctor Strugatsky... are you there?
Who's that voice?
If you do not respond, I will be forced to send an armed--


Who is that? Step forward, I can see you there.
Doctor, if this is your idea of a game, I--
Winter Soldier...


You're alive...
SNIKT
RAARRRCHHH!
Who the hell was that?
Somebody who's gonna be dead pretty soon.

TO BE CONTINUED...

TENSIONS RISE WITH EURASIAN REPUBLIC

Heads of state to meet in Latveria

PAGE 6

STANE/STARK TEST FLIGHT SUCCESS

Iron Man seen in skies over Montclair, NJ

PAGE 10

New York's Finest Daily Newspaper **Since 1897**

DAILY BUGLE

MARCH 23, 2011 / Cloudy / More Weather: Page 30

$1.50

"ANGEL" SPOTTED IN SKIES—SIGN OF PEACE OR DOOM?

ANGELS IN AMERICA?

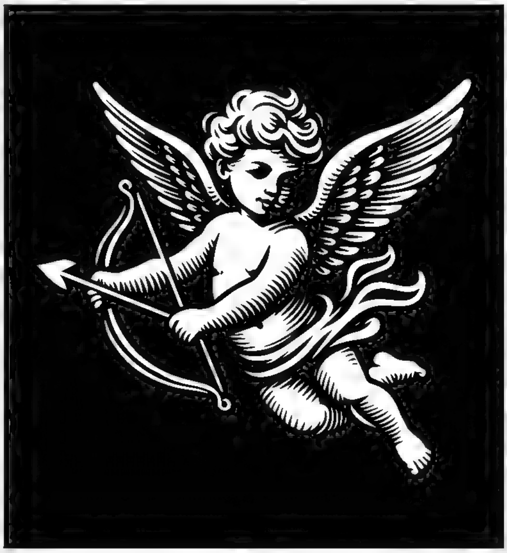
NEW YORK, NY Residents from across the North American Union have witnessed a strange flying creature in the skies over the last month, prompting panic and uncertainty. The creature has been described by multiple witnesses as resembling an angel—a humanoid form with wings on its back. The phenomenon has baffled scientists and government officials.

George Callas of Wichita Falls, Kansas, one of the first to report the strange aerial phenomenon, noted that the being had a "cherubic body" and "white, feathery wings." He also added: "But the sun was in my eyes, so it was hard to tell exactly what was going on. I didn't think much of it and continued to mow my lawn. Once my neighbor mentioned it to me later on, I said to myself, 'Oh, yeah. I saw that too. That *is* strange.'"

Some churches have welcomed the sightings, advertising "angel-sighting groups," praying for peace and extending an invitation to the creature to fly down and join their congregations for a meeting. No such meeting has occurred, and individuals who have joined the angel-sighting groups for one of their binocular-wearing forays described it as a "disappointment."

"We waited and waited," said Carla Ramirez of Hopewell, New Jersey, "but nothing happened. No angel, no nothing. We stood out in a park in the hot sun, and I nearly got sunstroke. A bird would fly by, and everyone would grab their binoculars, but that was it. Five dollars for nothing."

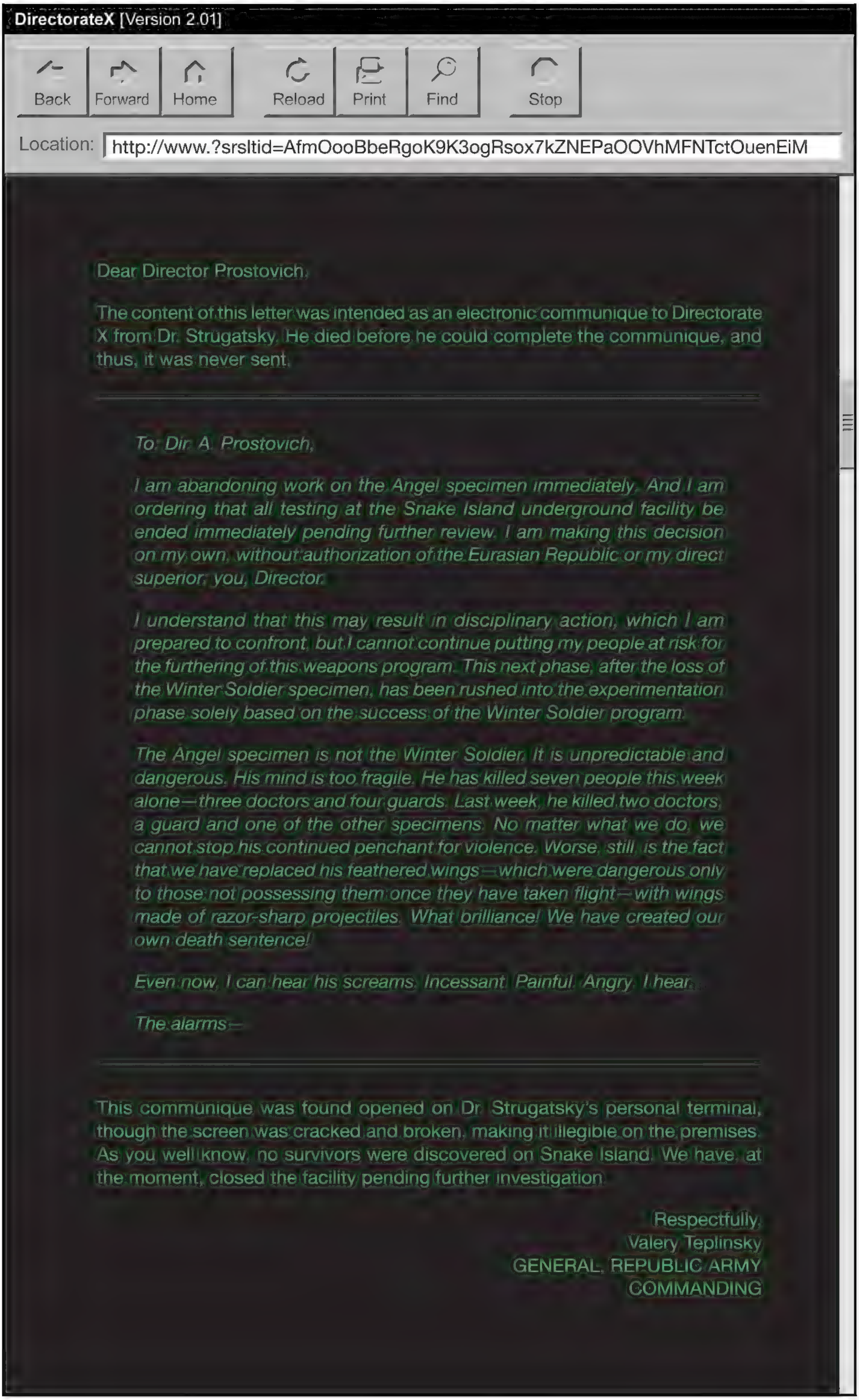
But the sightings continue regardless. May Fennel of Mission Viejo, California, saw the creature in the skies over her town last weekend. "I was in the garden when a shadow fell over me. I was in direct sunlight, so I thought this was odd. As I lifted my eyes to the sky, the shadow passed, and the sun shone directly in my eyes. I am pretty sure that the shadow was the angel. I believe it may be my Jeffrey come to watch over me."



Local authorities have been alerted to the sightings across the vast North American Union but urge residents to exercise caution and restraint. "We have received your phone calls, letters and emails," Chief of Police Jeremy Pesko of New Hampton, Iowa, said in a statement, "and we understand your concern. Despite this, we do not have any knowledge as to what this flying object is. We do not know if it is a living creature or a mechanical device. We do not know anything at this point. We do not believe it poses a risk to the safety of our residents, so at this time, we are asking everyone to please remain calm."

When asked about what journalists should refer to the flying creature as, the chief said: "Good question. It is best to classify it, as we do with all cases of this sort, as an unidentified flying object, or UFO. And to emphasize our earlier point, and please include this in your articles—I urge residents: Please stop shooting at it."

MORE COVERAGE ON PAGES 22


DirectorateX [Version 2.01]
Back
Forward
Home
Reload
Print
Find
Stop
Location:
http://www.?srsltid=AfmOooBbeRgoK9K3ogRsox7kZNEPaOOVhMFNTctOuenEiM

Dear Director Prostovich,

The content of this letter was intended as an electronic communique to Directorate X from Dr. Strugatsky. He died before he could complete the communique, and thus, it was never sent.

> *To: Dir. A. Prostovich,*
>
> *I am abandoning work on the Angel specimen immediately. And I am ordering that all testing at the Snake Island underground facility be ended immediately pending further review. I am making this decision on my own, without authorization of the Eurasian Republic or my direct superior, you, Director.*
>
> *I understand that this may result in disciplinary action, which I am prepared to confront, but I cannot continue putting my people at risk for the furthering of this weapons program. This next phase, after the loss of the Winter Soldier specimen, has been rushed into the experimentation phase solely based on the success of the Winter Soldier program.*
>
> *The Angel specimen is not the Winter Soldier. It is unpredictable and dangerous. His mind is too fragile. He has killed seven people this week alone—three doctors and four guards. Last week, he killed two doctors, a guard and one of the other specimens. No matter what we do, we cannot stop his continued penchant for violence. Worse, still, is the fact that we have replaced his feathered wings—which were dangerous only to those not possessing them once they have taken flight—with wings made of razor-sharp projectiles. What brilliance! We have created our own death sentence!*
>
> *Even now, I can hear his screams. Incessant. Painful. Angry. I hear...*
>
> *The alarms—*

This communique was found opened on Dr. Strugatsky's personal terminal, though the screen was cracked and broken, making it illegible on the premises. As you well know, no survivors were discovered on Snake Island. We have, at the moment, closed the facility pending further investigation.

Respectfully,
Valery Teplinsky
GENERAL, REPUBLIC ARMY
COMMANDING

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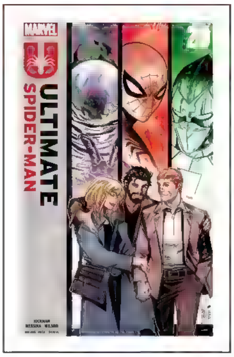
MARVEL
ULTIMATE WOLVERINE
9
CONDON
CAPPUCCIO VALENZA

ON SALE IN **SEPTEMBER**

ON SALE THIS MONTH



ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN #20

BY **JONATHAN HICKMAN**
& **DAVID MESSINA**

ULTIMATE BLACK PANTHER #19

BY **BRYAN HILL** &
CARLOS NIETO

ULTIMATE X-MEN #18

BY **PEACH MOMOKO**

ULTIMATES #15

BY **DENIZ CAMP**
& **VON RANDAL**

ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN: INCURSION #3

BY **DENIZ CAMP**, **CODY ZIGLAR**
& **JONAS SCHARF**

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU! EMAIL US AT **ULTIMATEOFFICE@MARVEL.COM** AND MARK YOUR LETTERS **"OKAY TO PRINT"**!

21

Twenty years ago, **THE MAKER** prevented a radioactive spider from biting a young **PETER PARKER**. He likewise prevented the creation of any other super heroes and formed a secret council to rule the world from the shadows.

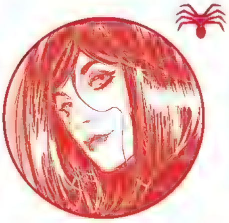
Twenty months ago, **TONY STARK** sent Peter that same radioactive spider along with a picotech suit. Since then, Peter has used the incredible powers granted by the spider's bite to fight crime alongside **GREEN GOBLIN**, A.K.A. **HARRY OSBORN**, co-C.E.O. of **OSCORP**.

Harry recently learned his wife, **GWEN STACY**, was **MYSTERIO**, a member of **KINGPIN**'s inner circle. But there are actually five Mysterios—including **JAMES WESLEY**, Kingpin's right-hand man. But Gwen went rogue and started a war targeting the other members of the **SINISTER SIX**, starting with **MR. NEGATIVE**...

ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN

CAST:

PETER PARKER
SPIDER-MAN

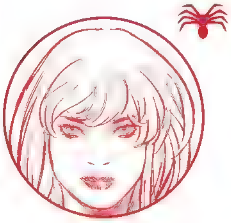


MJ WATSON-PARKER
PR GURU

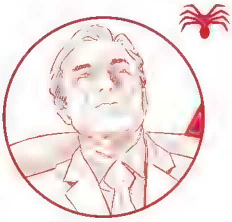
RICHARD PARKER
PETER AND MJ'S SON

MAY PARKER
PETER AND MJ'S DAUGHTER

HARRY OSBORN
GREEN GOBLIN

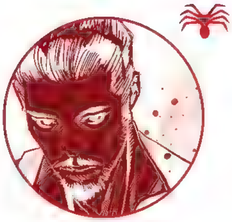


GWEN STACY
HARRY'S WIFE, MYSTERIO

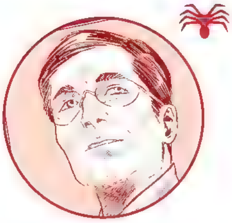


BEN PARKER
PETER'S UNCLE

J. JONAH JAMESON
BEN'S BUSINESS PARTNER



MR. NEGATIVE
ONE OF THE SINISTER SIX



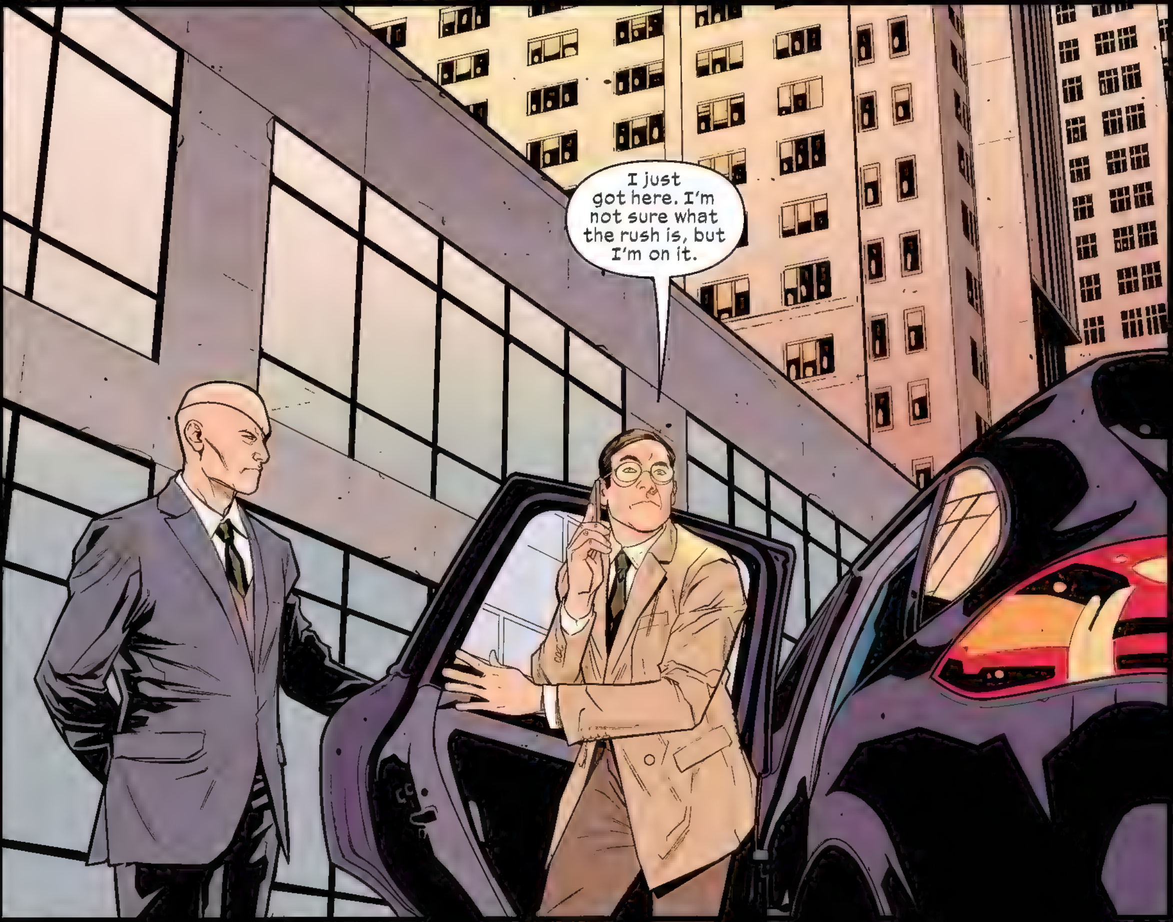
JAMES WESLEY
KINGPIN'S AIDE, MYSTERIO

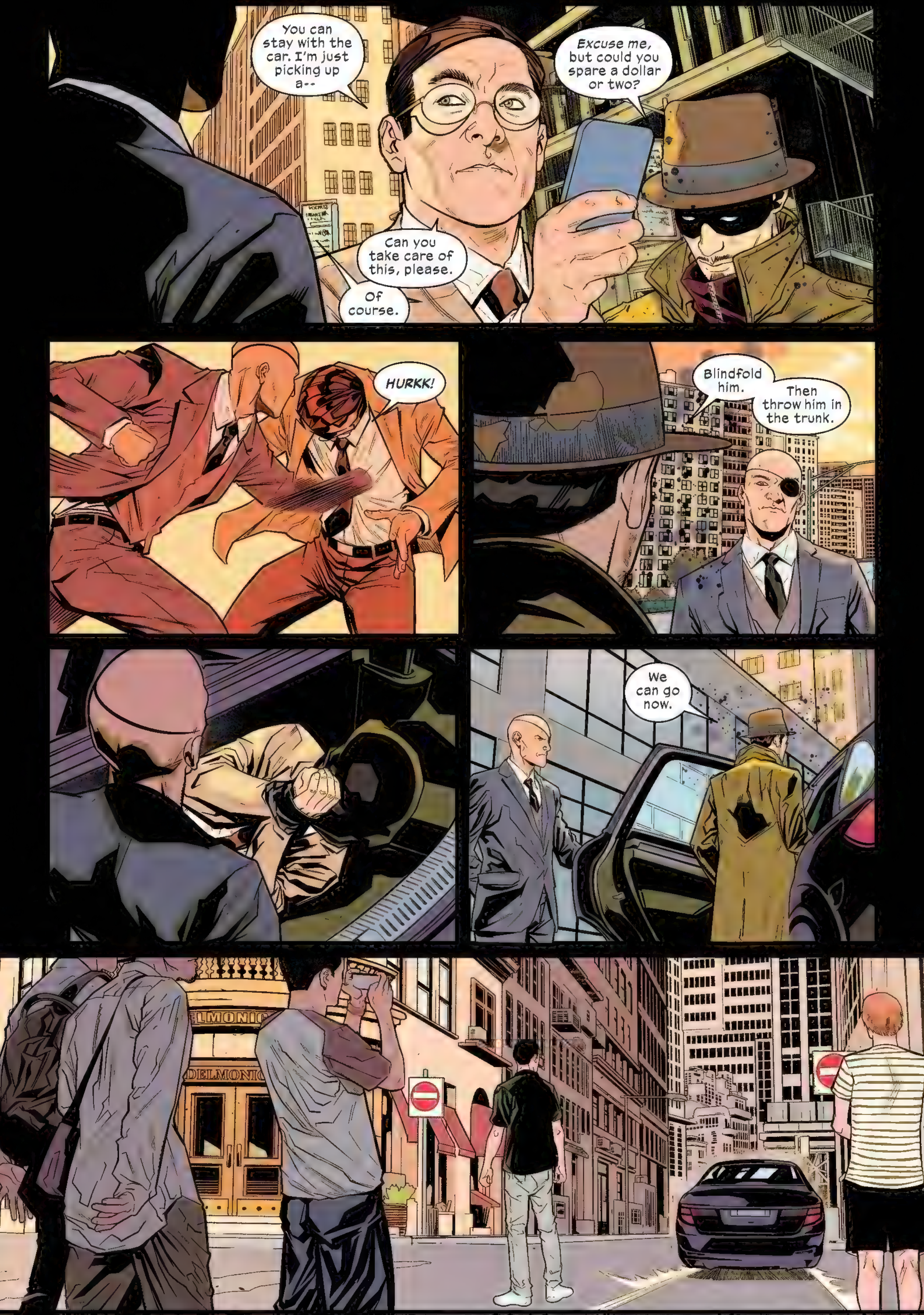
FELICIA HARDY
BLACK CAT

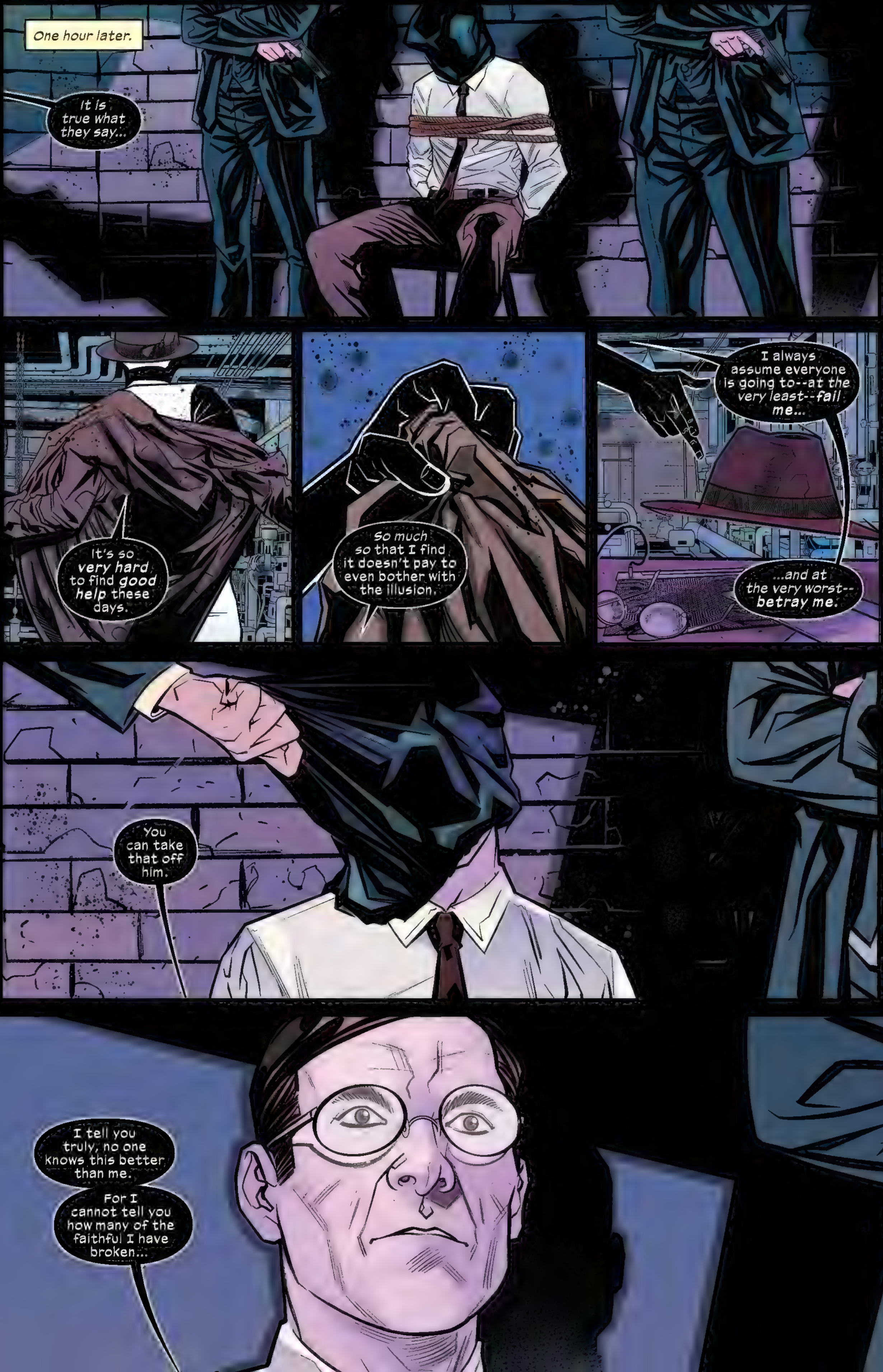
WILSON FISK
KINGPIN

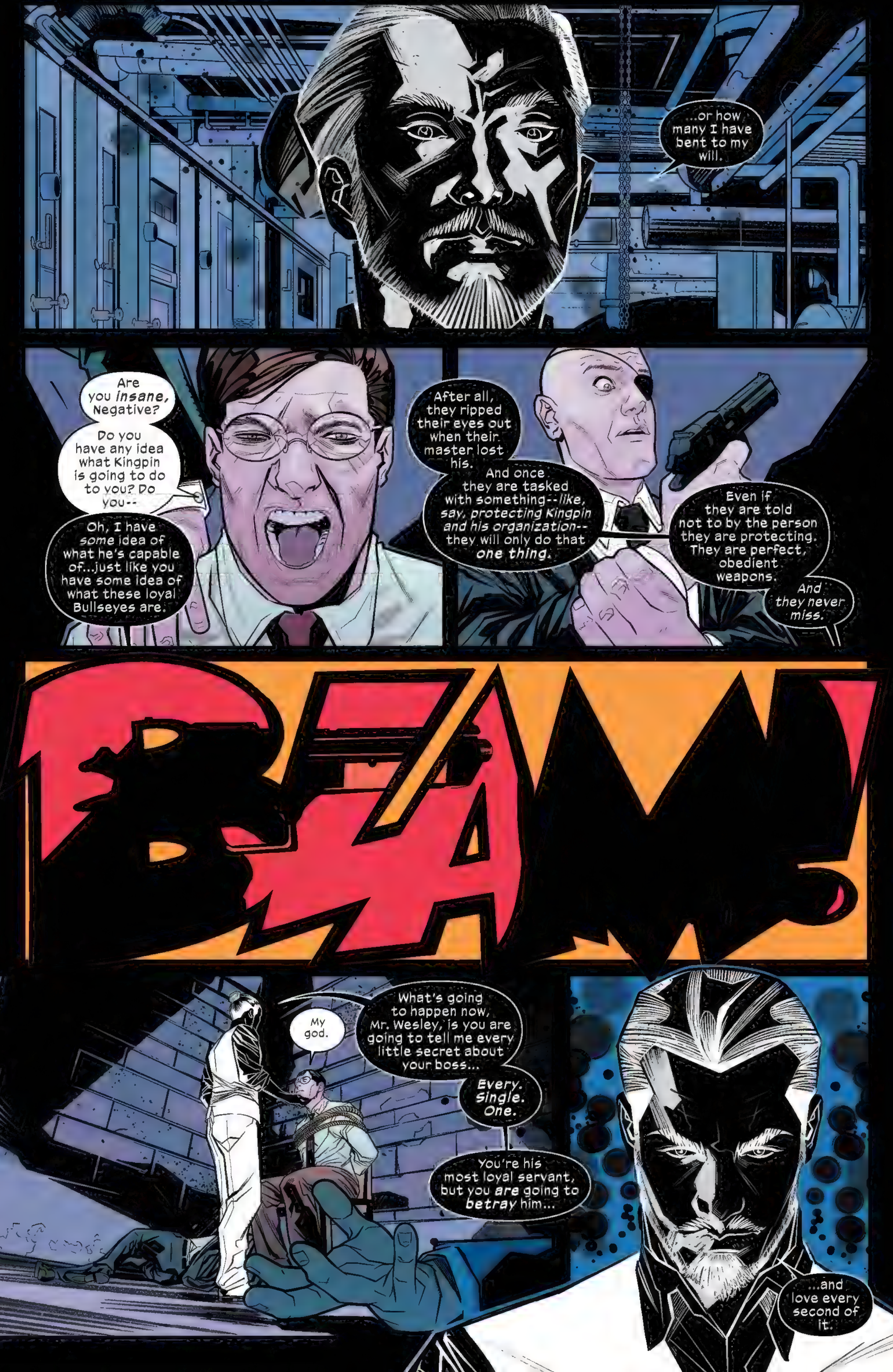
2025

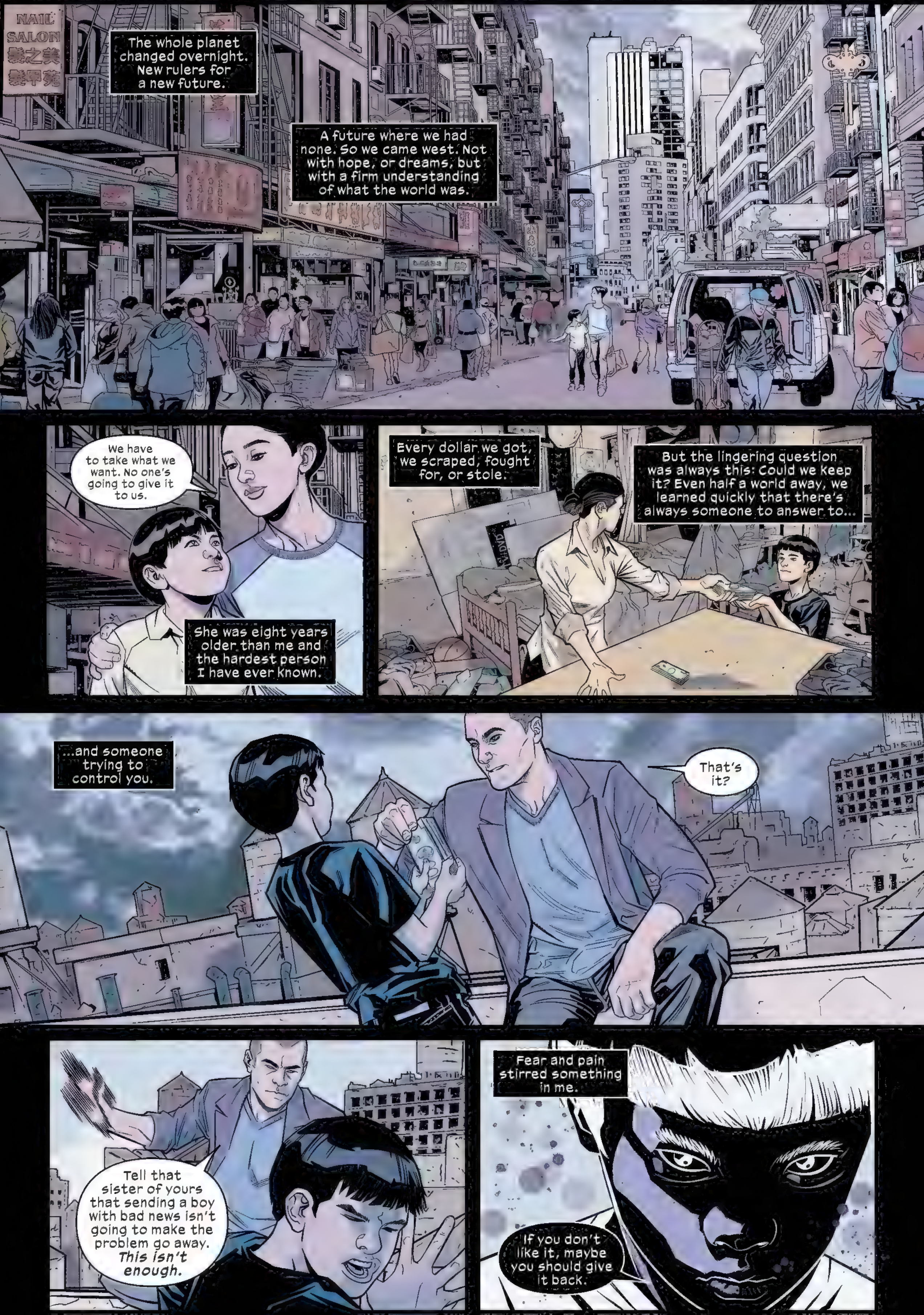
SEPTEMBER

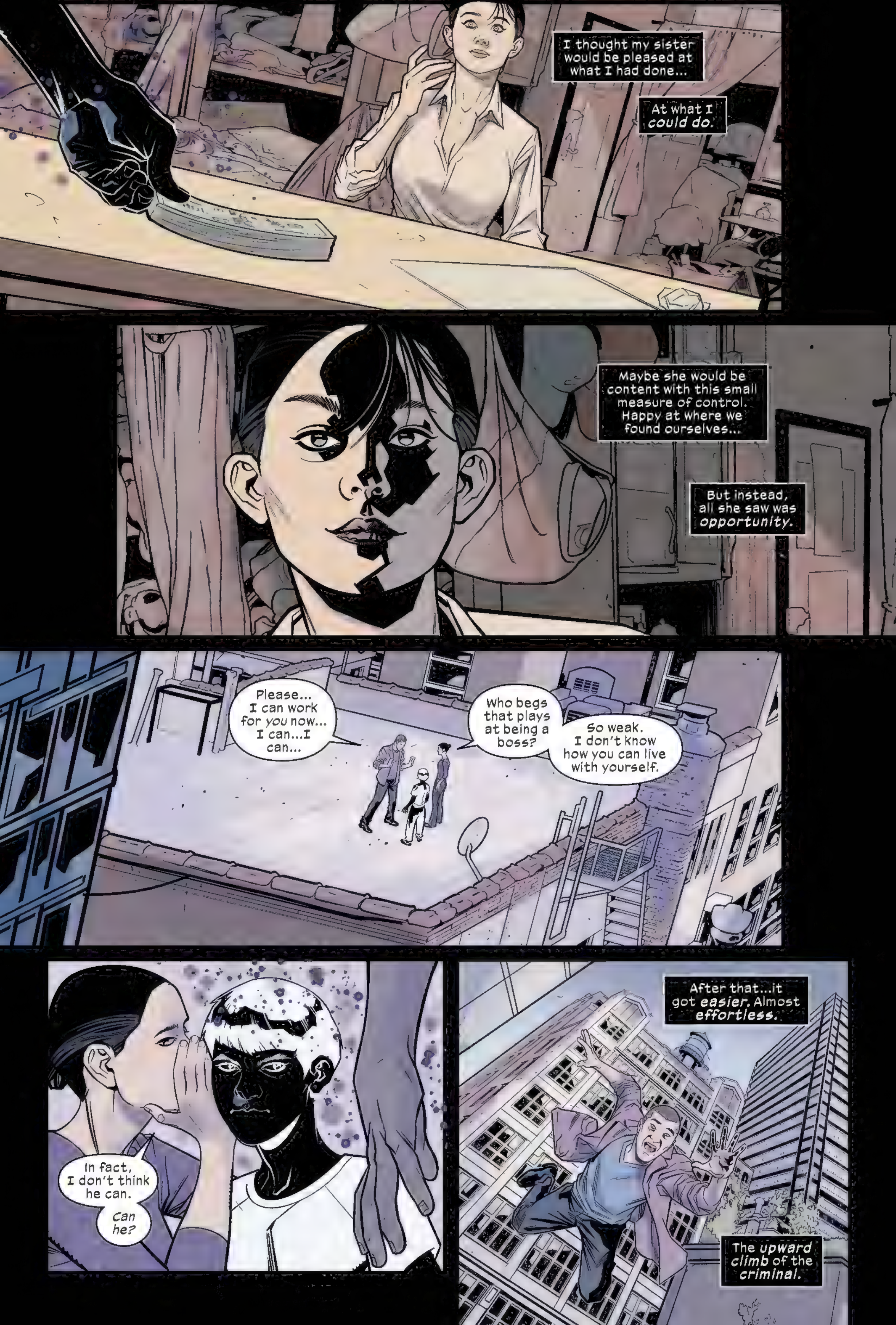

I just got here. I'm not sure what the rush is, but I'm on it.

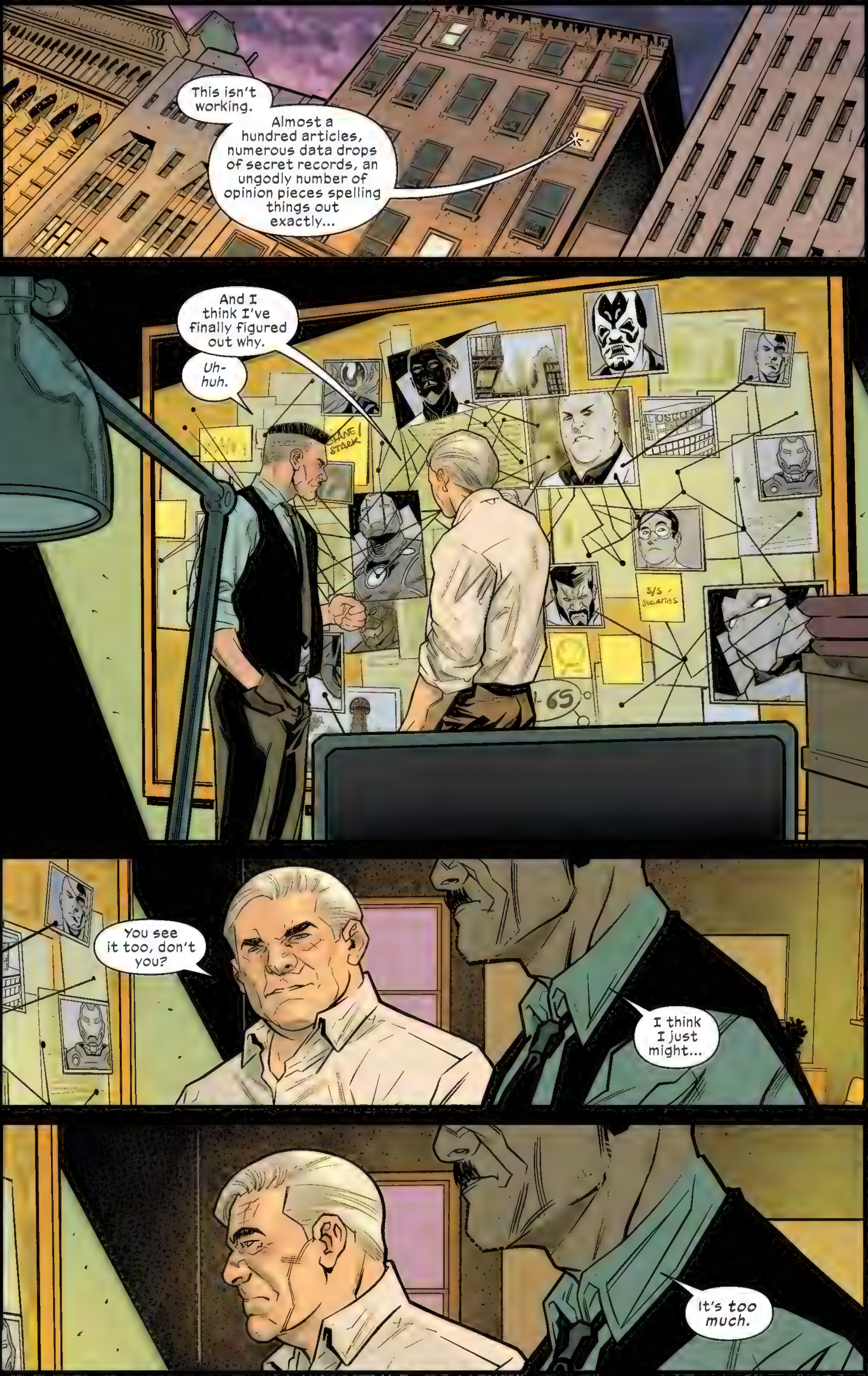

You can stay with the car. I'm just picking up a--
Excuse me, but could you spare a dollar or two?
Can you take care of this, please.
Of course.
HURKK!
Blindfold him.
Then throw him in the trunk.
We can go now.
ELMONIC
DELMONIC

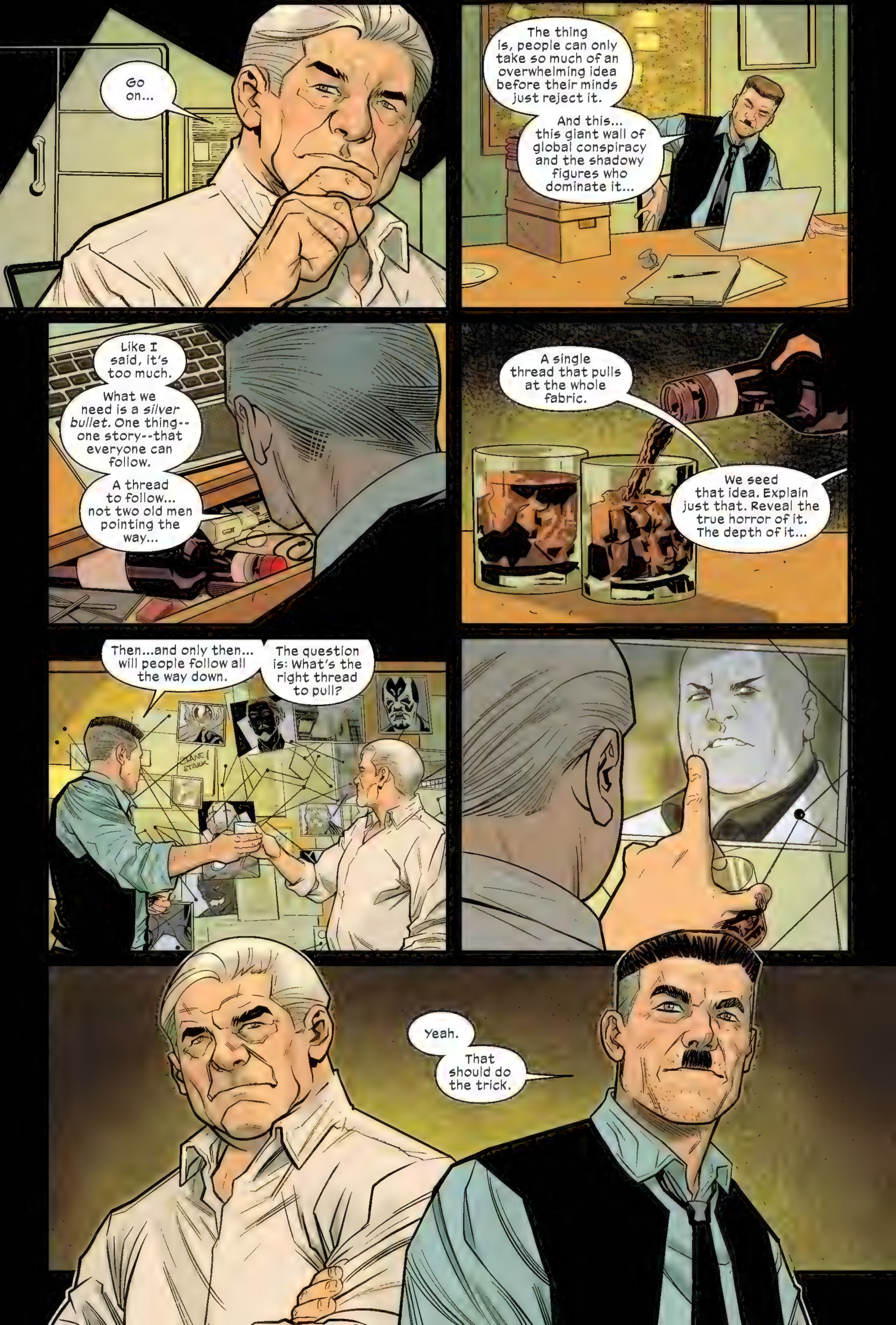

One hour later.
It is true what they say...
It's so very hard to find good help these days.
So much so that I find it doesn't pay to even bother with the illusion.
I always assume everyone is going to--at the very least--fail me...
...and at the very worst--betray me.
You can take that off him.
I tell you truly, no one knows this better than me.
For I cannot tell you how many of the faithful I have broken...

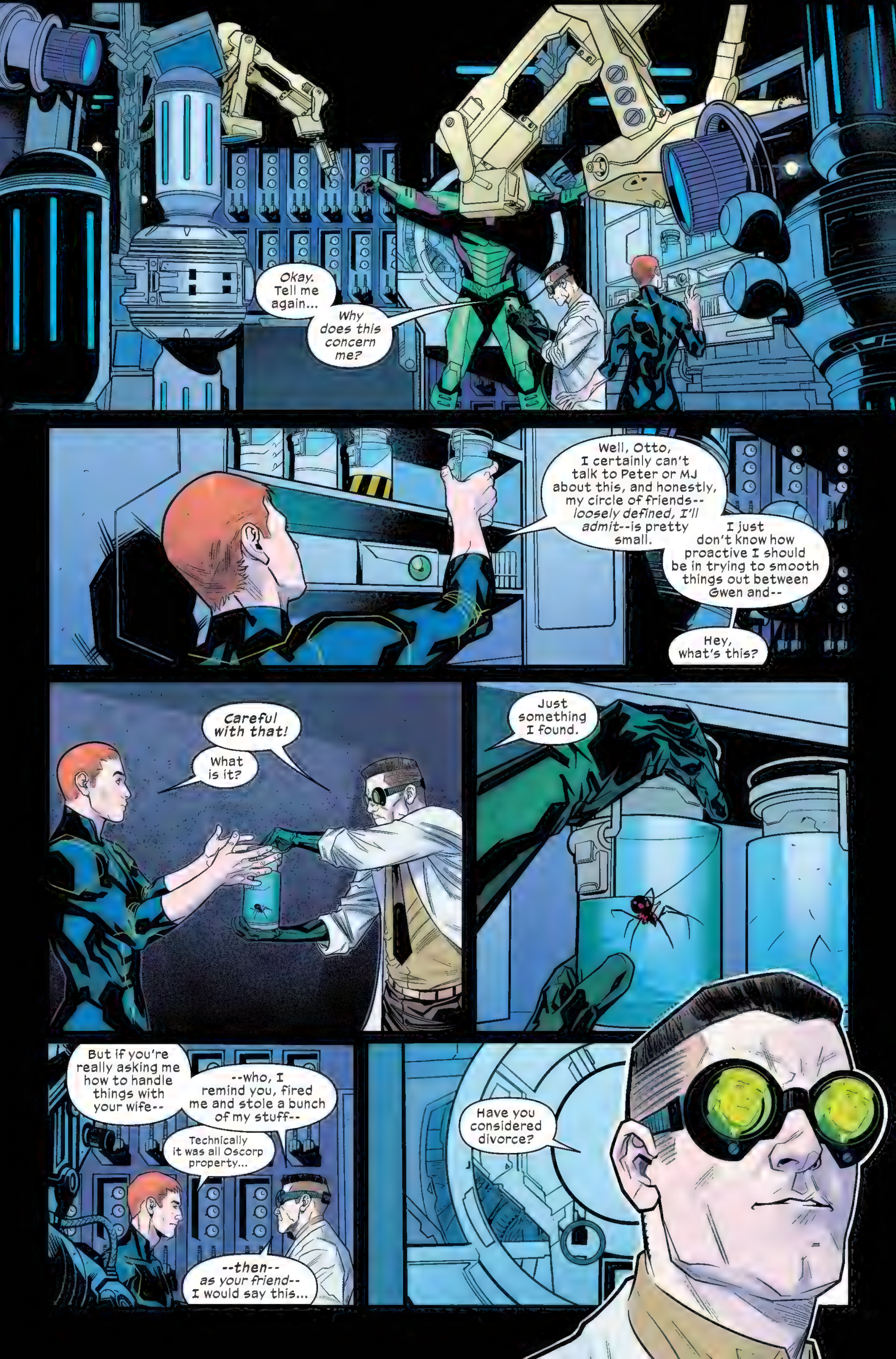

...or how many I have bent to my will.
Are you *insane,* Negative?
Do you have any idea what Kingpin is going to do to you? Do you--
Oh, I have *some* idea of what he's capable of...just like you have some idea of what these loyal Bullseyes are.
After all, they ripped their eyes out when their master lost his.
And once they are tasked with something--*like, say, protecting Kingpin and his organization*--they will only do that *one thing.*
Even if they are told not to by the person they are protecting. They are perfect, obedient weapons.
And they never miss.
BLAM!
My god.
What's going to happen now, Mr. Wesley, is you are going to tell me every little secret about your boss...
Every. Single. One.
You're his most loyal servant, but you *are* going to *betray* him...
...and love every second of it.

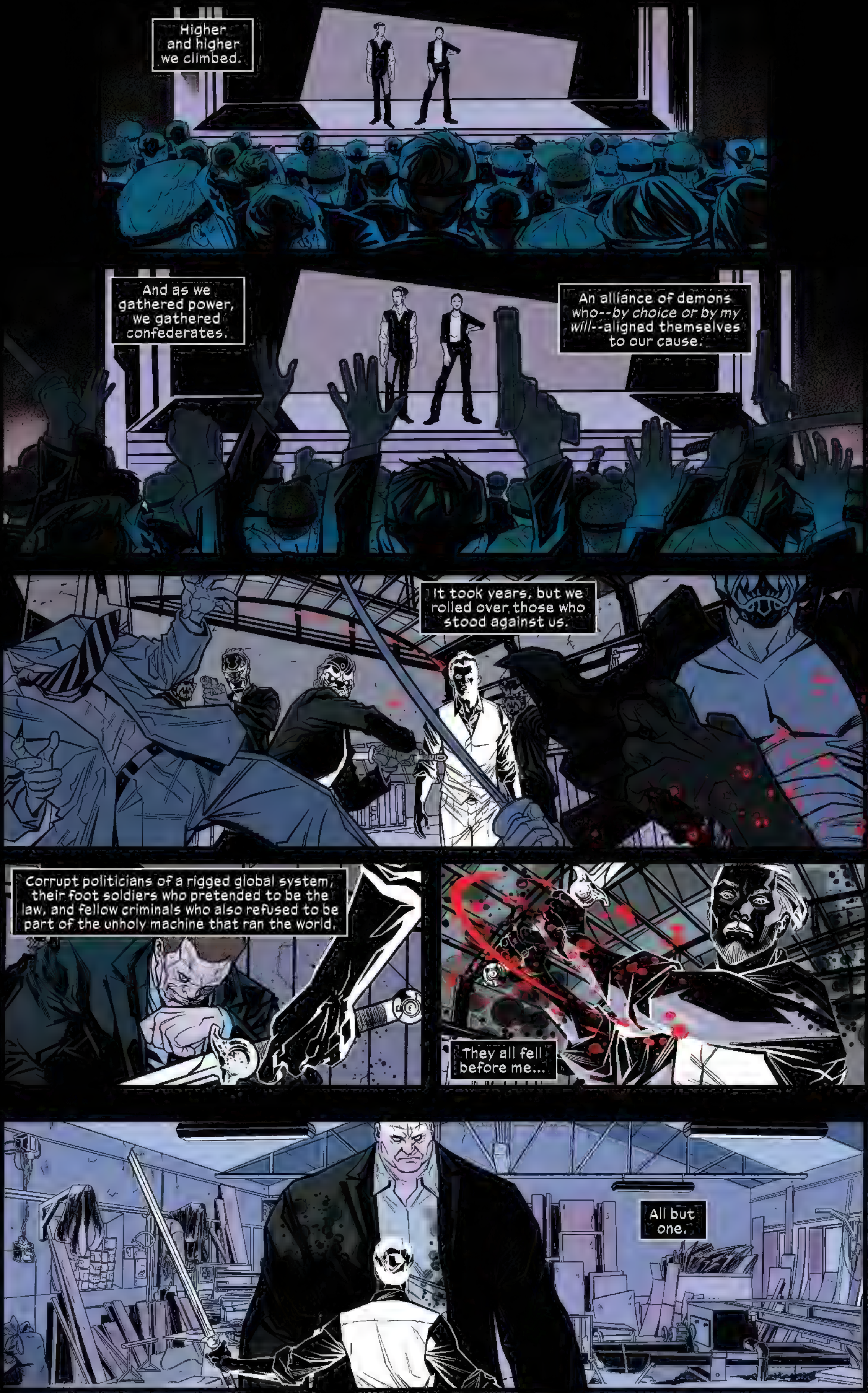

NAIL SALON
The whole planet changed overnight. New rulers for a new future.
A future where we had none. So we came west. Not with hope, or dreams, but with a firm understanding of what the world was.
We have to take what we want. No one's going to give it to us.
She was eight years older than me and the hardest person I have ever known.
Every dollar we got, we scraped, fought for, or stole.
But the lingering question was always this: Could we keep it? Even half a world away, we learned quickly that there's always someone to answer to...
...and someone trying to control you.
That's it?
Tell that sister of yours that sending a boy with bad news isn't going to make the problem go away. *This isn't enough.*
Fear and pain stirred something in me.
If you don't like it, maybe you should give it back.

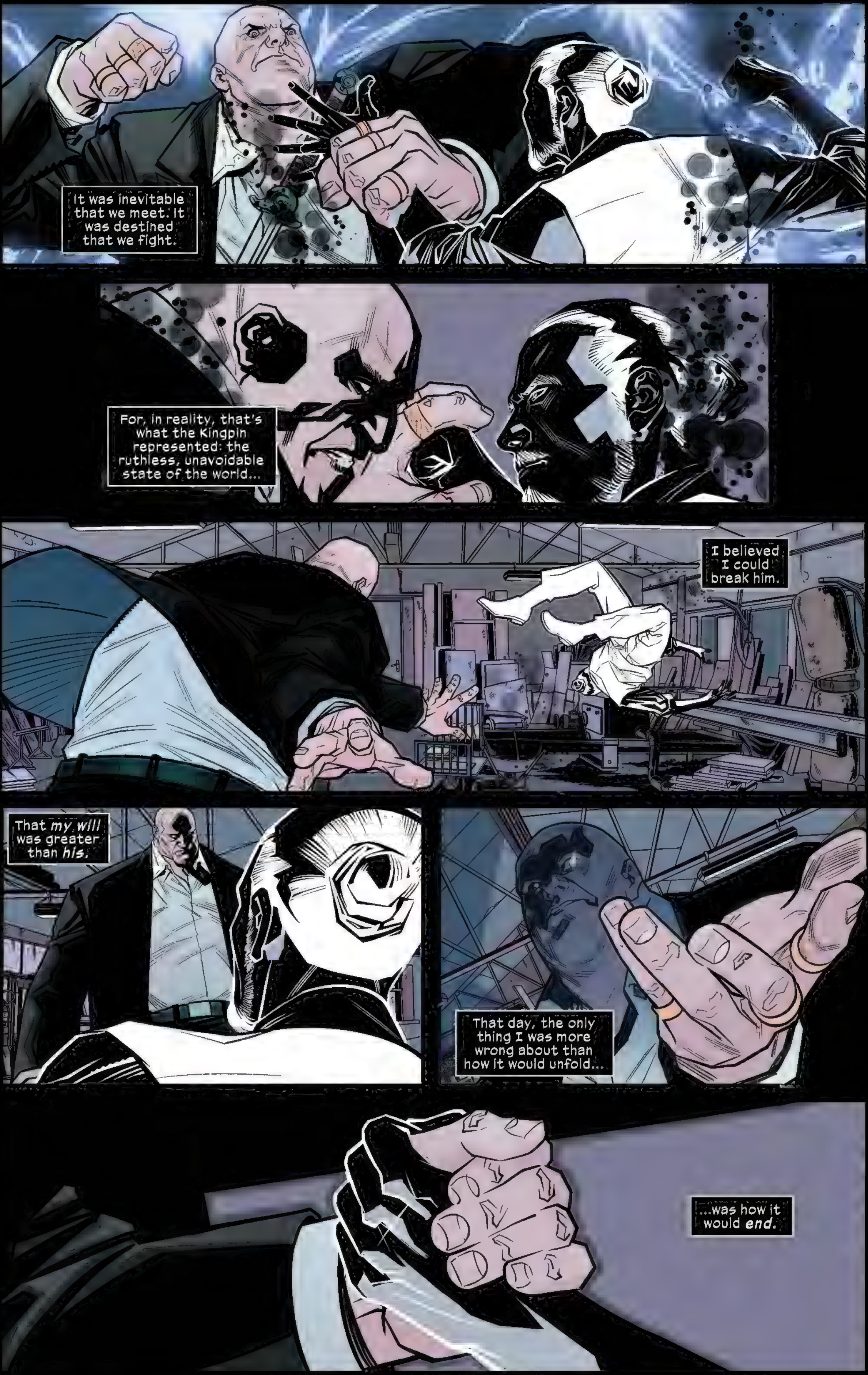

I thought my sister would be pleased at what I had done...
At what I *could do.*
Maybe she would be content with this small measure of control. Happy at where we found ourselves...
But instead, all she saw was *opportunity.*
Please... I can work for *you* now... I can...I can...
Who begs that plays at being a boss?
So weak. I don't know how you can live with yourself.
In fact, I don't think he can.
Can he?
After that...it got *easier.* Almost *effortless.*
The *upward climb* of the *criminal.*

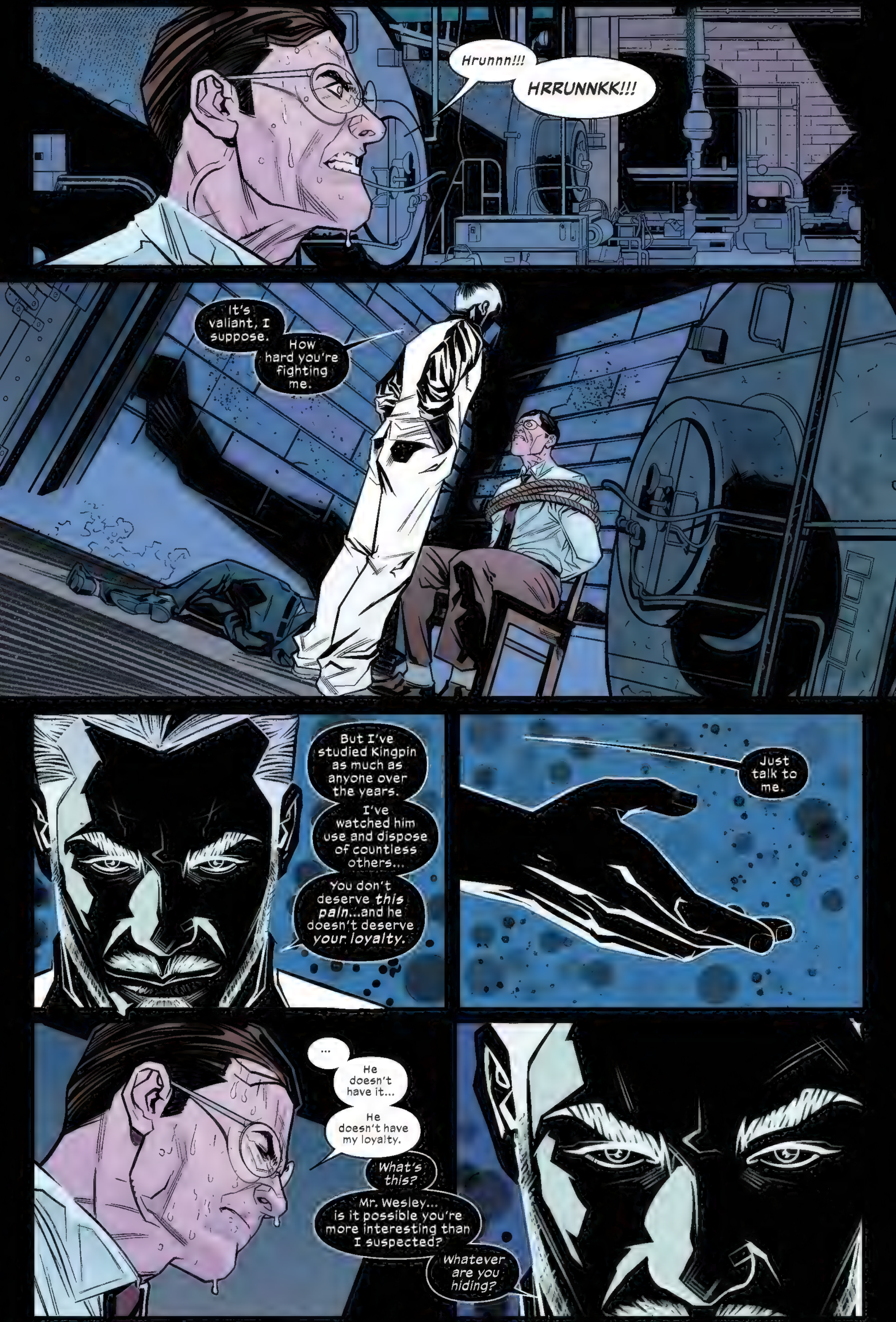

This isn't working.
Almost a hundred articles, numerous data drops of secret records, an ungodly number of opinion pieces spelling things out exactly...
And I think I've finally figured out why.
Uh-huh.
S/S SECURITIES
65
You see it too, don't you?
I think I just might...
It's too much.

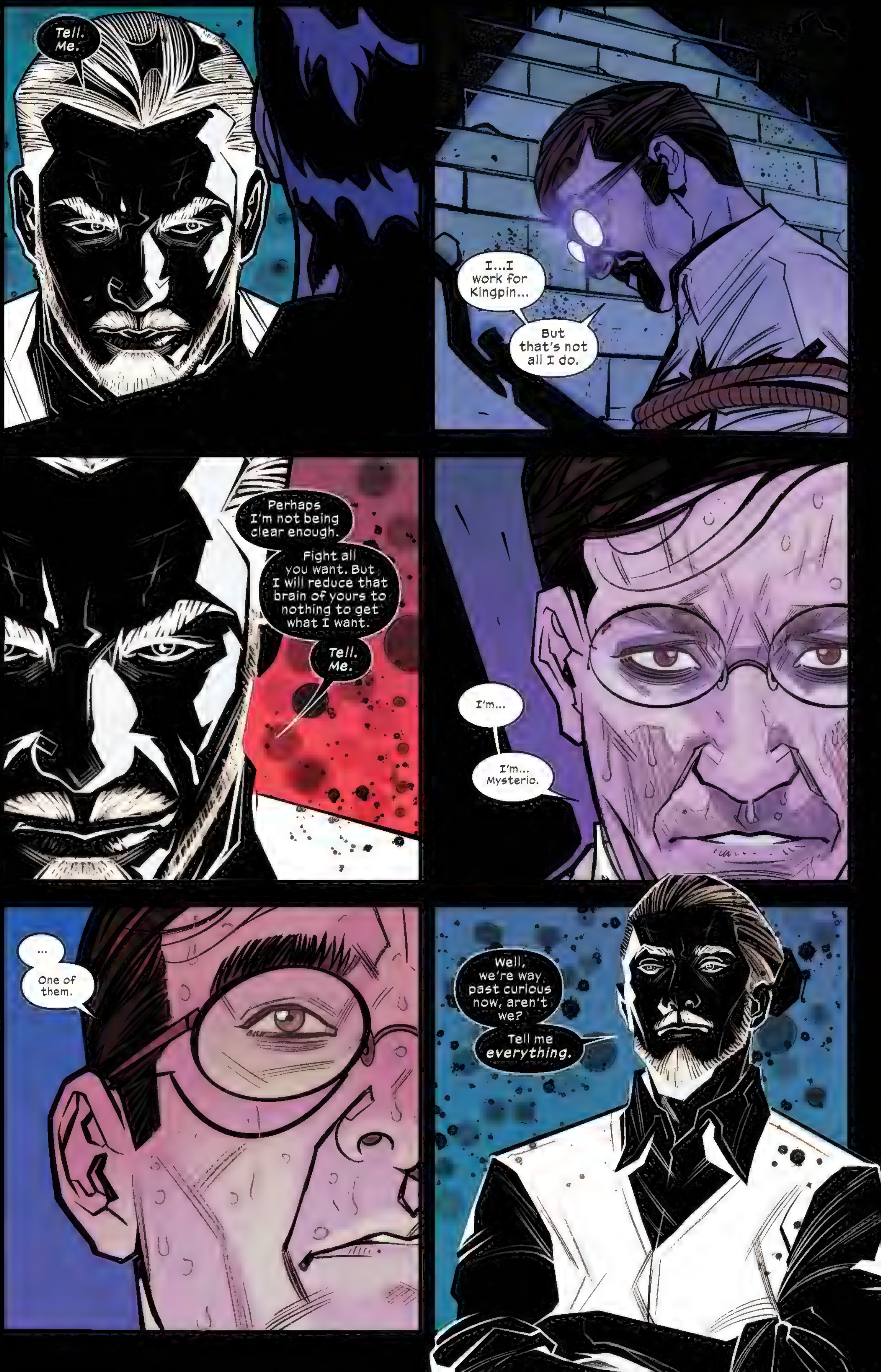

Go on...
The thing is, people can only take so much of an overwhelming idea before their minds just reject it.
And this... this giant wall of global conspiracy and the shadowy figures who dominate it...
Like I said, it's too much.
What we need is a *silver bullet.* One thing--one story--that everyone can follow.
A thread to follow... not two old men pointing the way...
A single thread that pulls at the whole fabric.
We seed that idea. Explain just that. Reveal the true horror of it. The depth of it...
Then...and only then... will people follow all the way down.
The question is: What's the right thread to pull?
CRANE / STARK
Yeah.
That should do the trick.

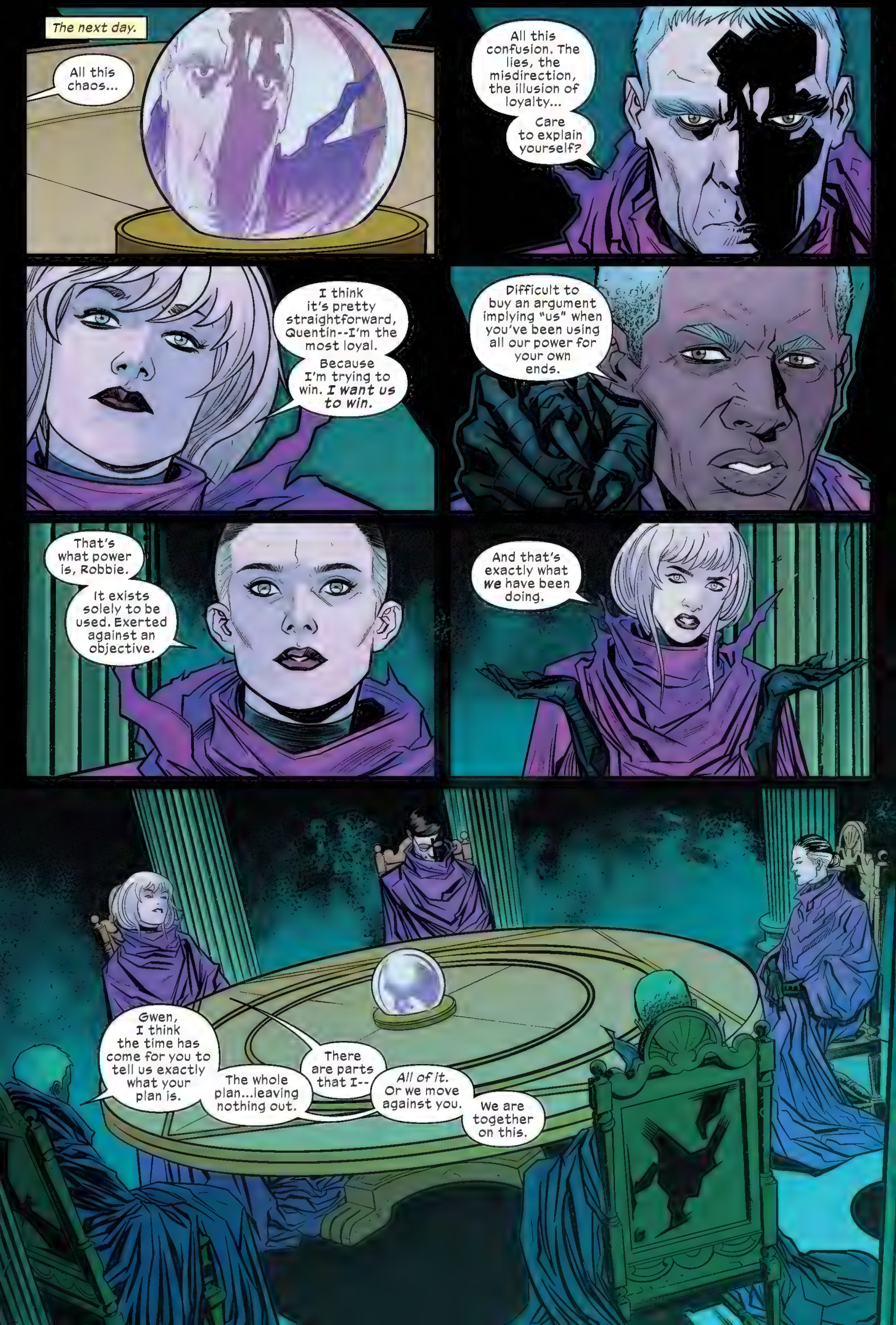

Okay. Tell me again...
Why does this concern me?
Well, Otto, I certainly can't talk to Peter or MJ about this, and honestly, my circle of friends-- *loosely defined, I'll admit*--is pretty small.
I just don't know how proactive I should be in trying to smooth things out between Gwen and--
Hey, what's this?
Careful with that!
What is it?
Just something I found.
But if you're really asking me how to handle things with your wife--
--who, I remind you, fired me and stole a bunch of my stuff--
Technically it was all Oscorp property...
--then-- *as your friend--* I would say this...
Have you considered divorce?

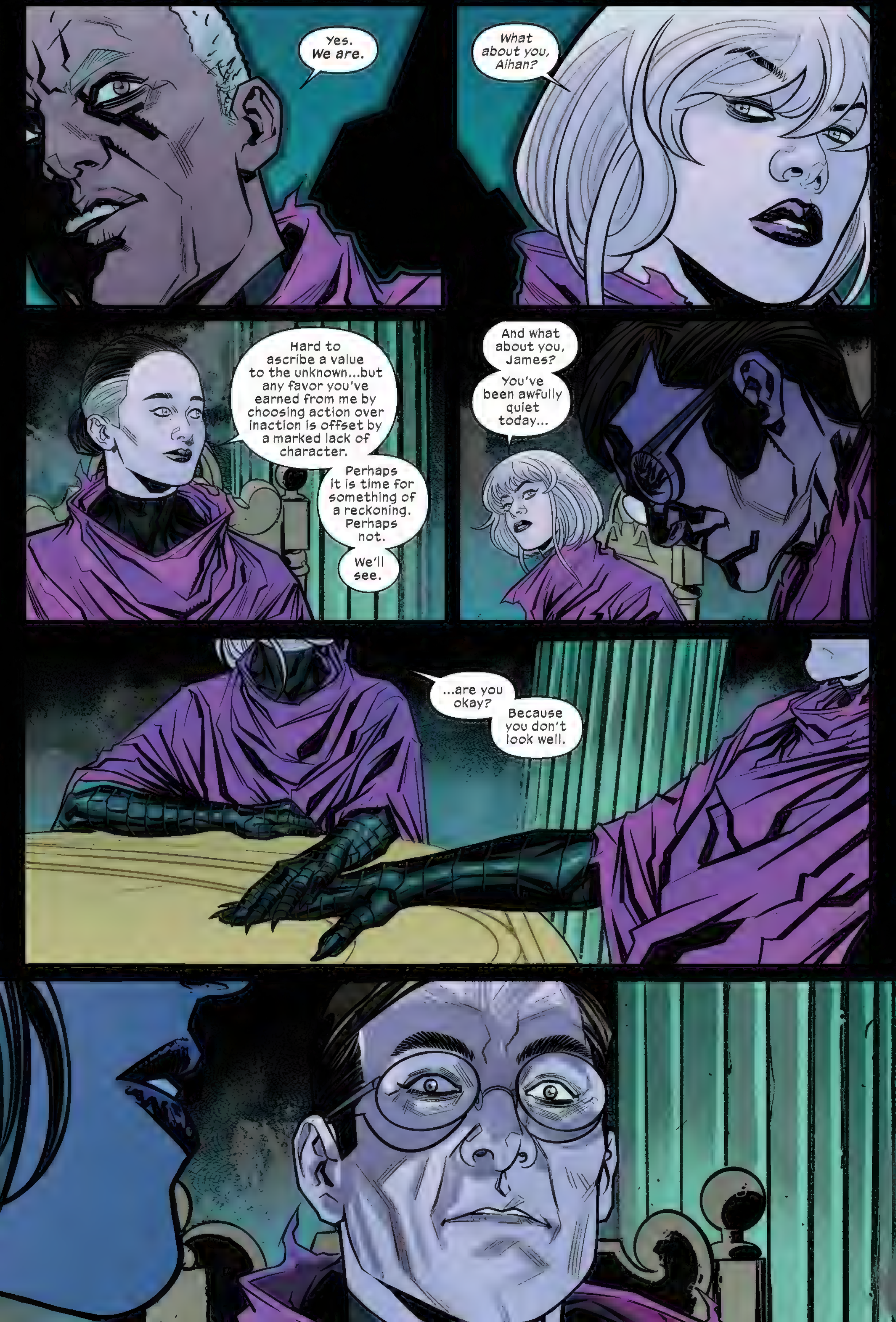

Higher and higher we climbed.
And as we gathered power, we gathered confederates.
An alliance of demons who--*by choice or by my will*--aligned themselves to our cause.
It took years, but we rolled over those who stood against us.
Corrupt politicians of a rigged global system, their foot soldiers who pretended to be the law, and fellow criminals who also refused to be part of the unholy machine that ran the world.
They all fell before me...
All but one.

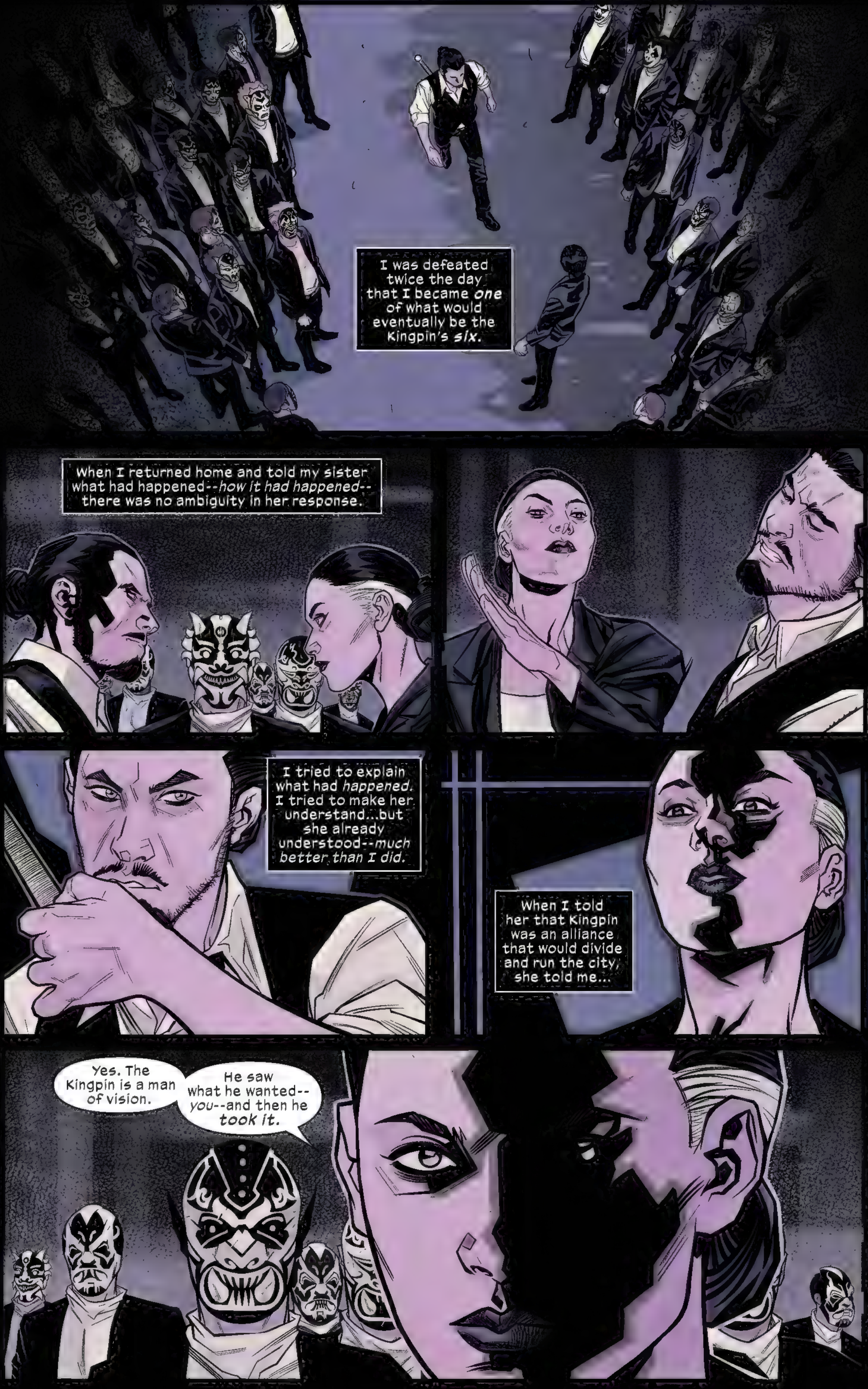

It was inevitable that we meet. It was destined that we fight.
For, in reality, that's what the Kingpin represented: the ruthless, unavoidable state of the world...
I believed I could break him.
That *my will* was greater than *his*.
That day, the only thing I was more wrong about than how it would unfold...
...was how it would *end*.

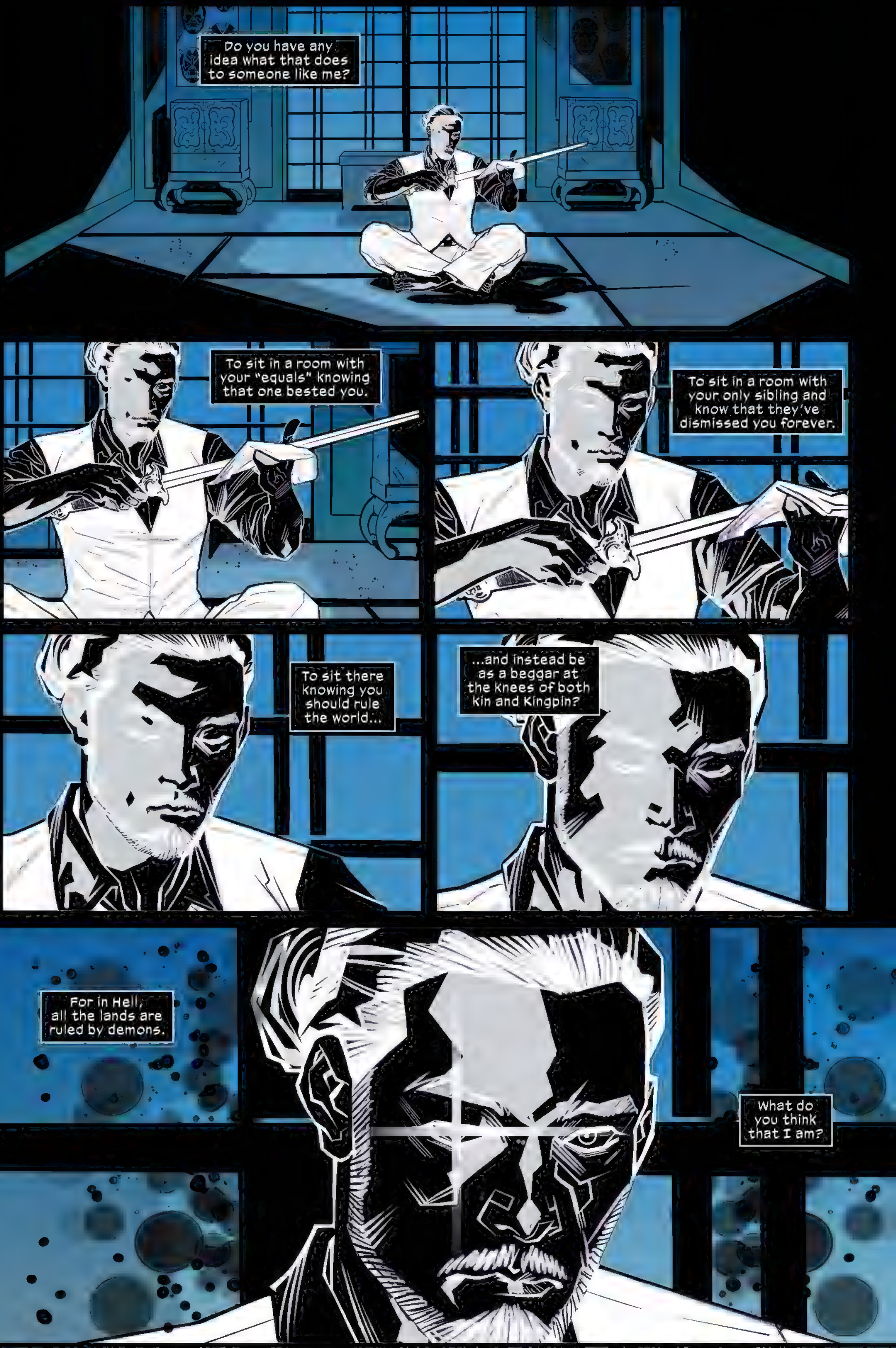

Hrunnn!!!
HRRUNNKK!!!
It's valiant, I suppose.
How hard you're fighting me.
But I've studied Kingpin as much as anyone over the years.
I've watched him use and dispose of countless others...
You don't deserve *this pain*...and he doesn't deserve *your loyalty.*
Just talk to me.
...
He doesn't have it...
He doesn't have my loyalty.
What's this?
Mr. Wesley... is it possible you're more interesting than I suspected?
Whatever are you hiding?

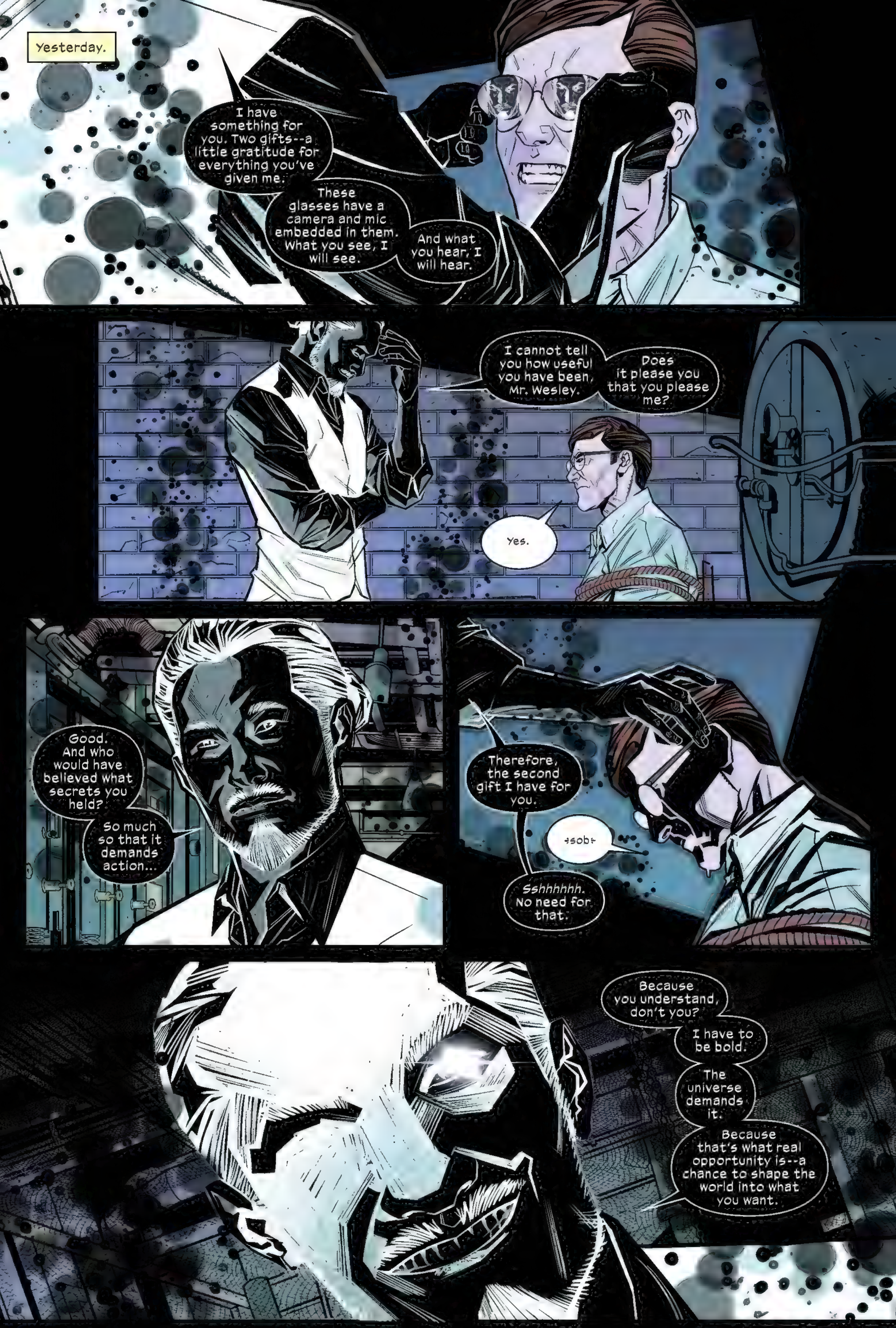

Tell. Me.
I...I work for Kingpin...
But that's not all I do.
Perhaps I'm not being clear enough.
Fight all you want. But I will reduce that brain of yours to nothing to get what I want.
Tell. Me.
I'm...
I'm... Mysterio.
...
One of them.
Well, we're way past curious now, aren't we?
Tell me *everything.*

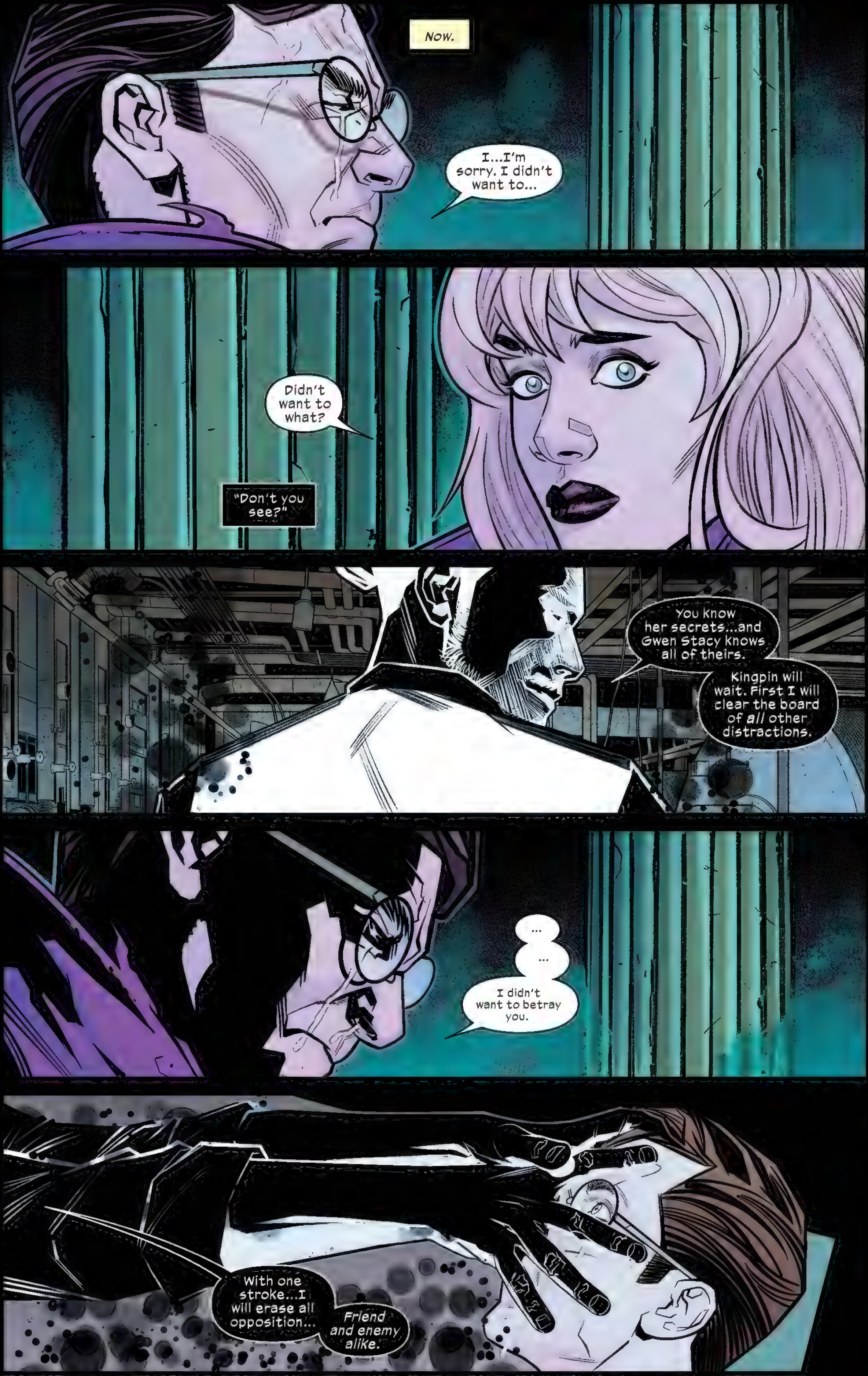

The next day.
All this chaos...
All this confusion. The lies, the misdirection, the illusion of loyalty...
Care to explain yourself?
I think it's pretty straightforward, Quentin--I'm the most loyal.
Because I'm trying to win. *I want us to win.*
Difficult to buy an argument implying "us" when you've been using all our power for your own ends.
That's what power is, Robbie.
It exists solely to be used. Exerted against an objective.
And that's exactly what *we* have been doing.
Gwen, I think the time has come for you to tell us exactly what your plan is.
The whole plan...leaving nothing out.
There are parts that I--
All of it. Or we move against you.
We are together on this.

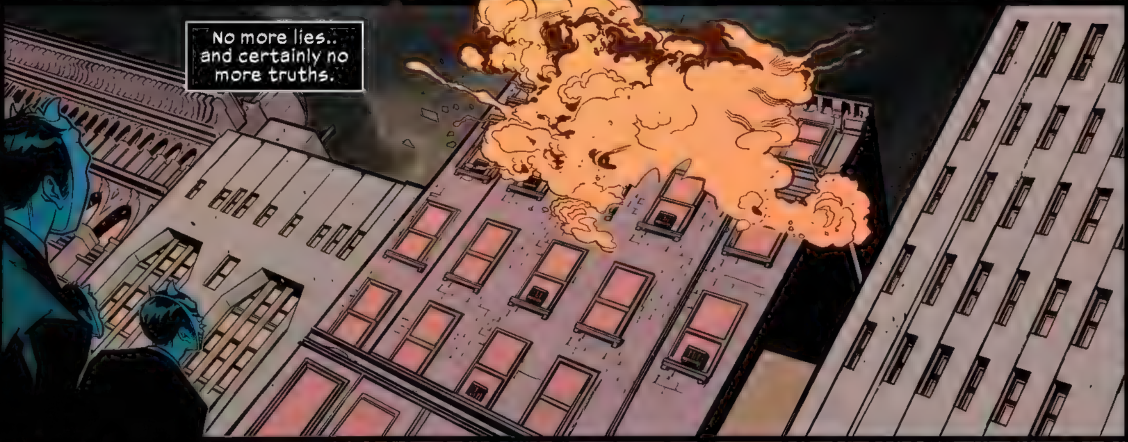

Yes. We are.
What about you, Aihan?
Hard to ascribe a value to the unknown...but any favor you've earned from me by choosing action over inaction is offset by a marked lack of character.
Perhaps it is time for something of a reckoning. Perhaps not.
We'll see.
And what about you, James?
You've been awfully quiet today...
...are you okay?
Because you don't look well.

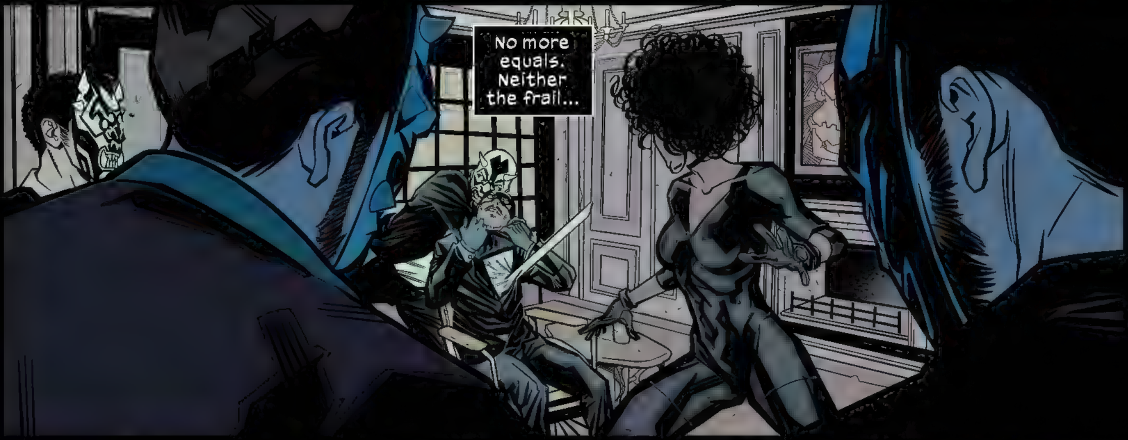

I was defeated twice the day that I became *one* of what would eventually be the Kingpin's *six*.
When I returned home and told my sister what had happened--*how it had happened*--there was no ambiguity in her response.
I tried to explain what had *happened*. I tried to make her understand...but she already understood--*much better than I did.*
When I told her that Kingpin was an alliance that would divide and run the city, she told me...
Yes. The Kingpin is a man of vision.
He saw what he wanted--*you*--and then he *took it*.

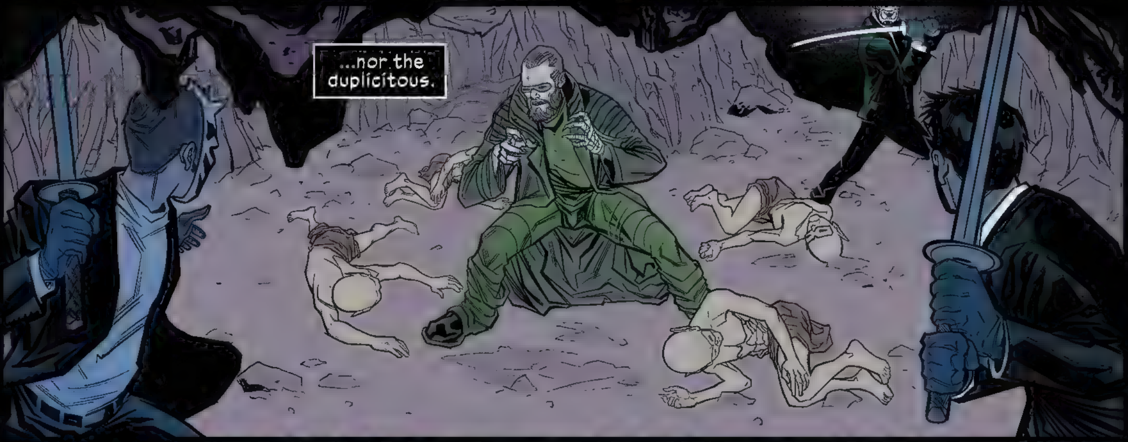

Do you have any idea what that does to someone like me?
To sit in a room with your "equals" knowing that one bested you.
To sit in a room with your only sibling and know that they've dismissed you forever.
To sit there knowing you should rule the world...
...and instead be as a beggar at the knees of both Kin and Kingpin?
For in Hell, all the lands are ruled by demons.
What do you think that I am?

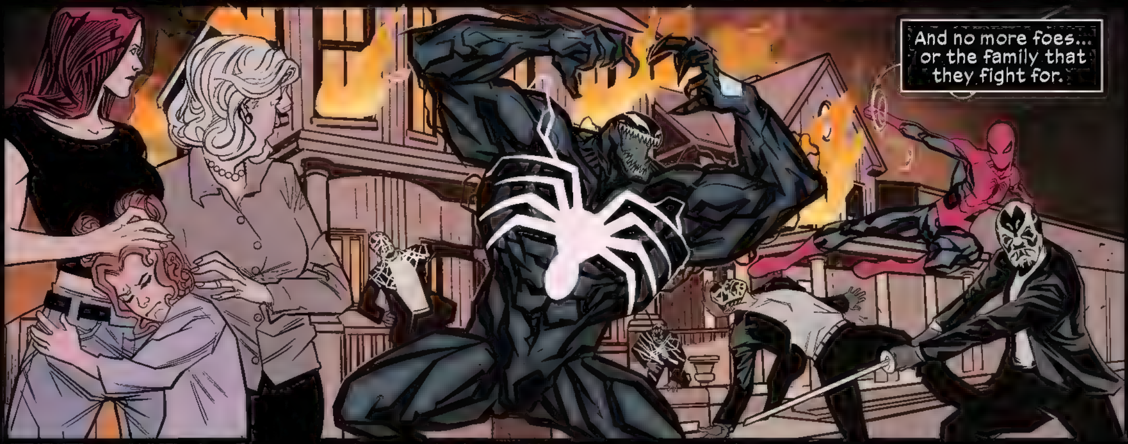

Yesterday.
I have something for you. Two gifts--a little gratitude for everything you've given me.
These glasses have a camera and mic embedded in them. What you see, I will see.
And what you hear, I will hear.
I cannot tell you how useful you have been, Mr. Wesley.
Does it please you that you please me?
Yes.
Good. And who would have believed what secrets you held?
So much so that it demands action...
Therefore, the second gift I have for you.
+sob+
Sshhhhhh. No need for that.
Because you understand, don't you?
I have to be bold.
The universe demands it.
Because that's what real opportunity is--a chance to shape the world into what you want.

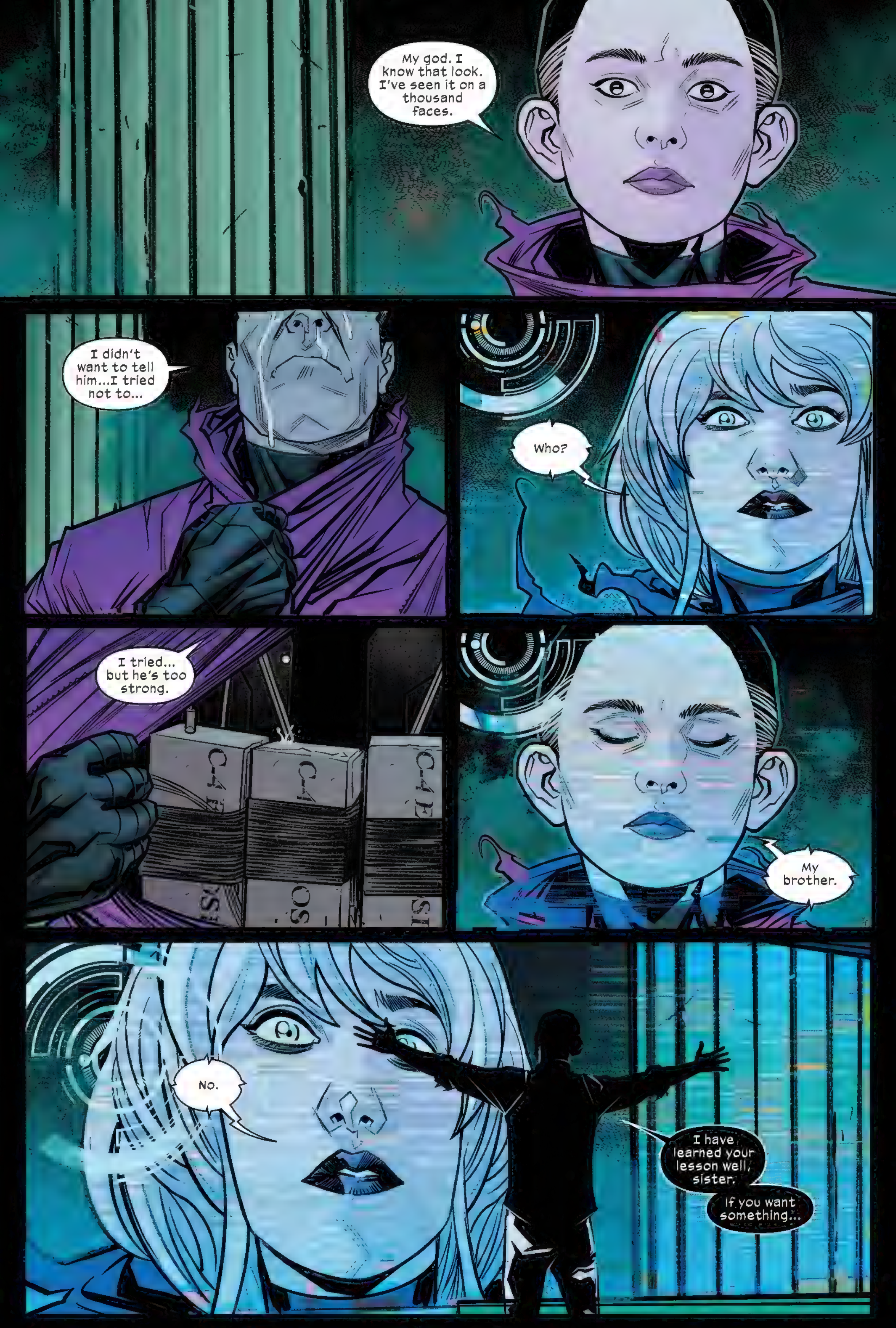

Now.
I...I'm sorry. I didn't want to...
Didn't want to what?
"Don't you see?"
You know her secrets...and Gwen Stacy knows all of theirs.
Kingpin will wait. First I will clear the board of *all* other distractions.
...
...
I didn't want to betray you.
With one stroke...I will erase all opposition...
Friend and enemy alike.

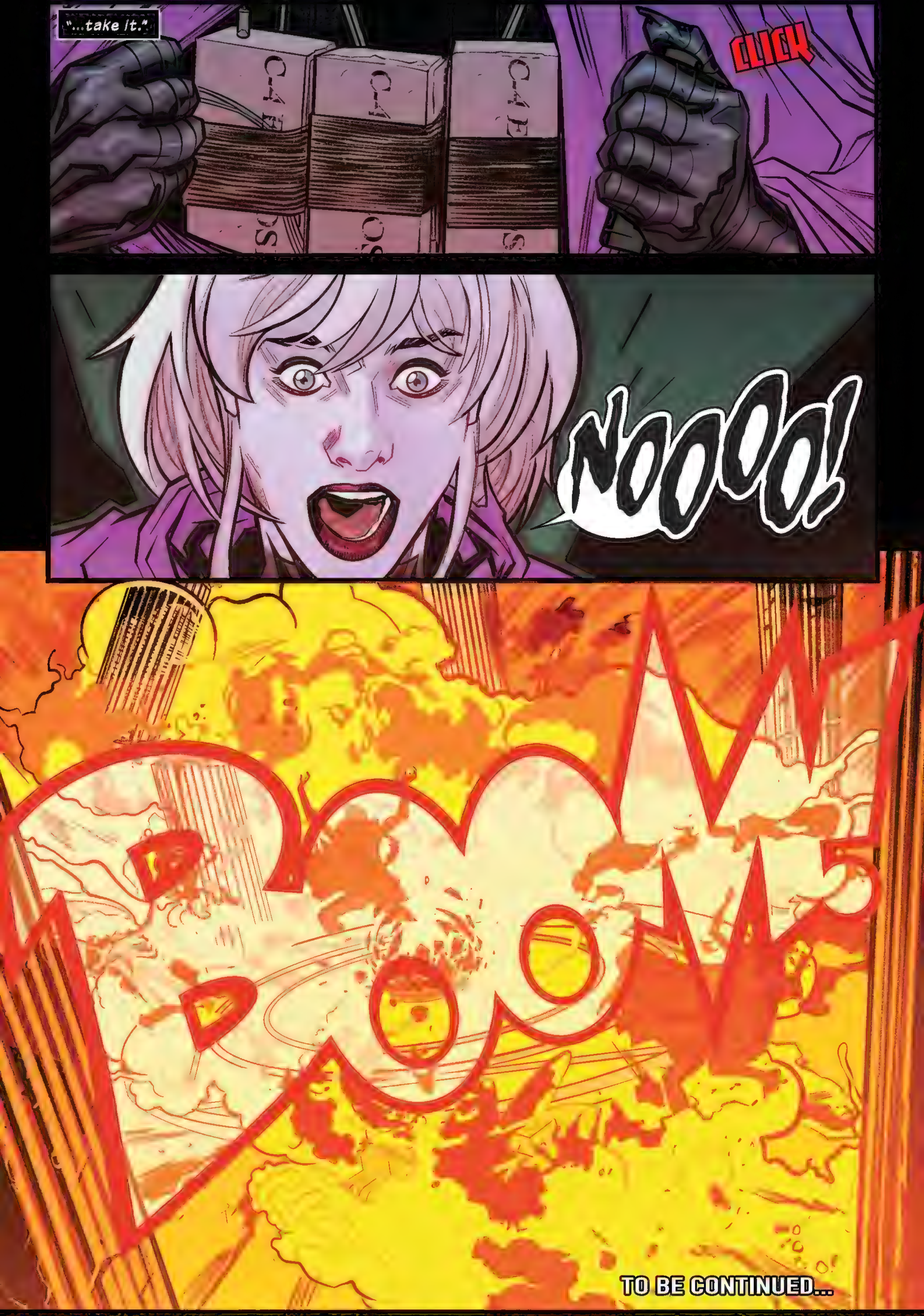

No more lies.. and certainly no more truths.


No more equals. Neither the frail...


...nor the duplicitous.


And no more foes... or the family that they fight for.


My god. I know that look. I've seen it on a thousand faces.
I didn't want to tell him...I tried not to...
Who?
I tried... but he's too strong.
C-4
C-4
C-4
My brother.
No.
I have learned your lesson well, sister.
If you want something...


"...take it."
CLICK
NOOOO!
BOOOM
TO BE CONTINUED...

WRITER: **JONATHAN HICKMAN**
ARTIST: **DAVID MESSINA**

COLOR ARTISTS: **MATTHEW WILSON & ERICK ARCINIEGA**
LETTERER: **VC's CORY PETIT**
COVER ARTISTS: **MARCO CHECCHETTO & MATTHEW WILSON**
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ASSISTANT EDITOR: **MICHELLE MARCHESE**
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EDITOR IN CHIEF: **C.B. CEBULSKI**

SPIDER-MAN CREATED BY **STAN LEE** & **STEVE DITKO**

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HICKMAN
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ON SALE IN **OCTOBER**

ON SALE THIS MONTH

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ULTIMATE
BLACK PANTHER

ULTIMATE BLACK PANTHER #20

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ULTIMATE WOLVERINE #9

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ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN: INCURSION #4

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HAWKEYE

ULTIMATE HAWKEYE #1

BY **DENIZ CAMP**, **TABOO**, **B. EARL**,
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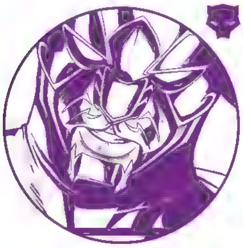
A diabolical genius known as **THE MAKER** created his ideal Earth by systematically preventing anyone from ever becoming a super hero. To rule his perfected Earth, he placed super villains in charge of different regions, and together, **THE MAKER'S COUNCIL** quietly orchestrated the history of the world.

KING T'CHALLA of the highly advanced, isolated **WAKANDA** thought he'd triumphed over the evils of the Maker's Council. But **RA** and **KHONSHU**, the overseers of the African continent, had unlocked a larger, more dangerous power by activating **VIBRANIUM**, the element upon which Wakanda was built.

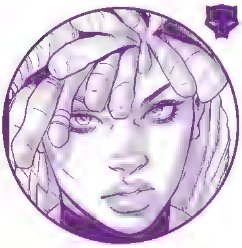
Within vibranium are volatile, angry spirits that call themselves **PROGENITORS**. After the head progenitor, **Z'NON**, attacked **BLACK PANTHER**, T'Challa was rescued by the goddess **BAST**. She sent him on a spiritual journey to fully claim the panther's power...

ULTIMATE BLACK PANTHER

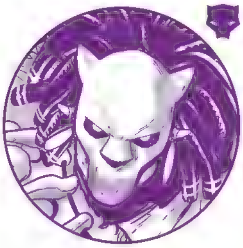
CAST:



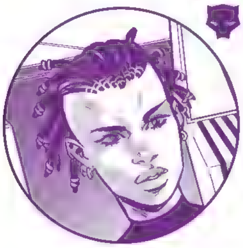
BLACK PANTHER
KING T'CHALLA



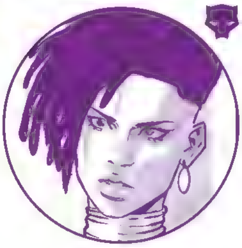
STORM
ORORO MUNROE



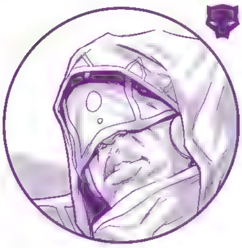
KILLMONGER
ERIK KILLMONGER



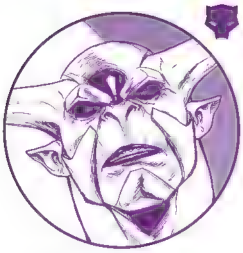
SHURI
WOMAN-AT-ARMS,
T'CHALLA'S SISTER



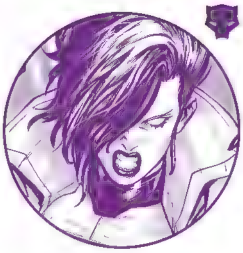
QUEEN OKOYE
HIGH MENTOR OF
THE DORA MILAJE



MATRON IMALA
SACRED MOTHER OF
THE VODU-KHAN

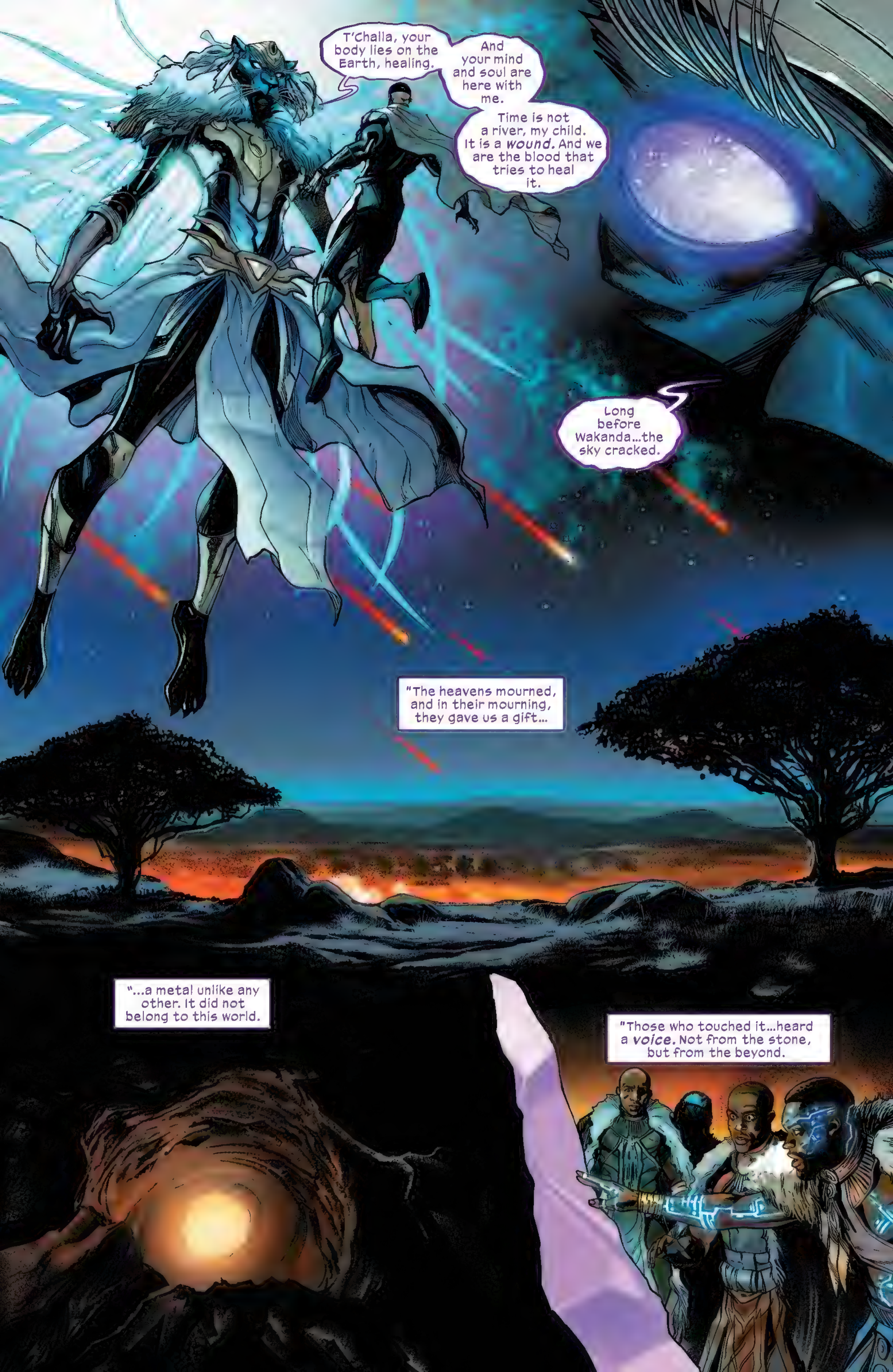


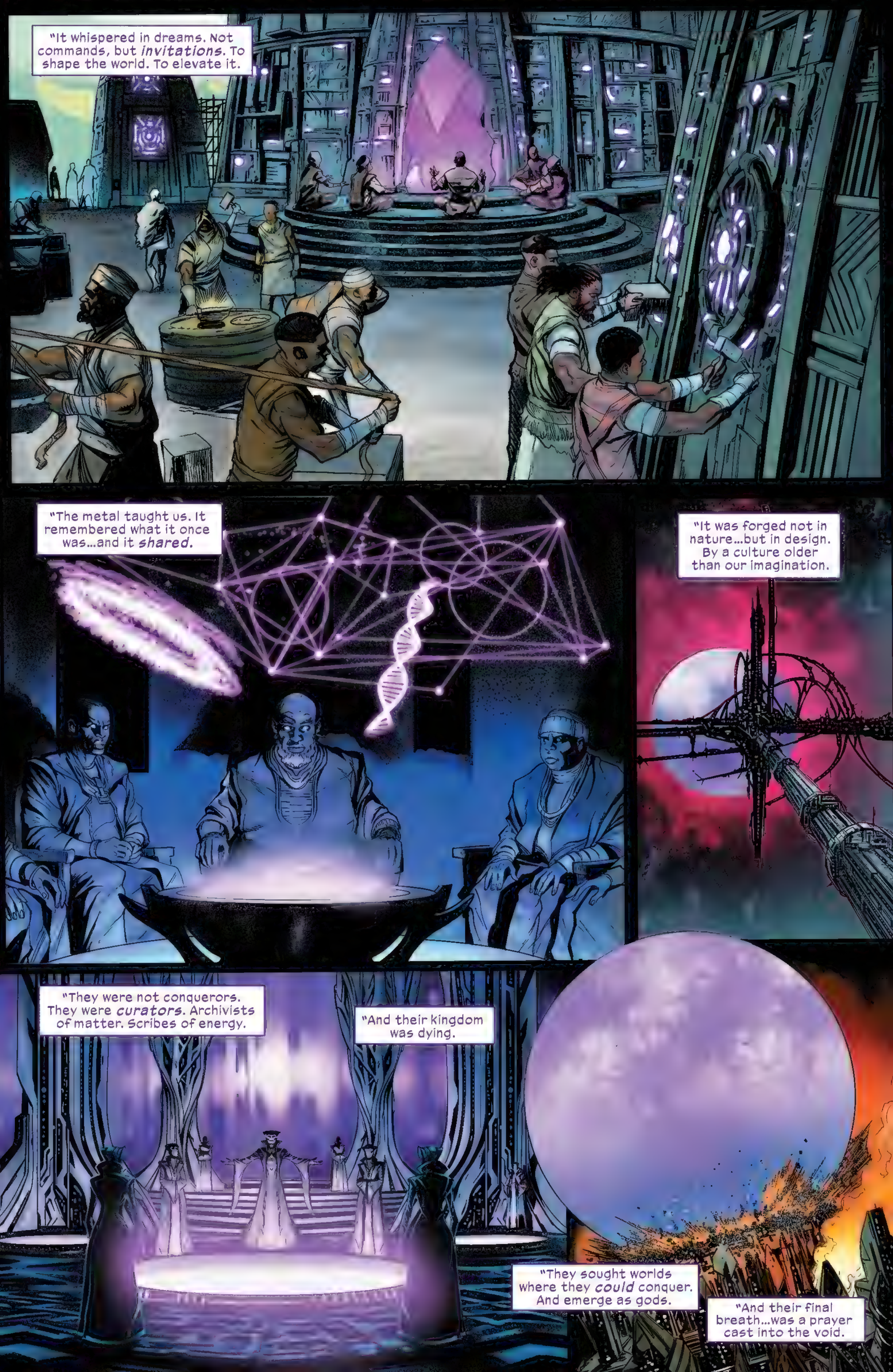
Z'NON
SPIRIT OF
VIBRANIUM

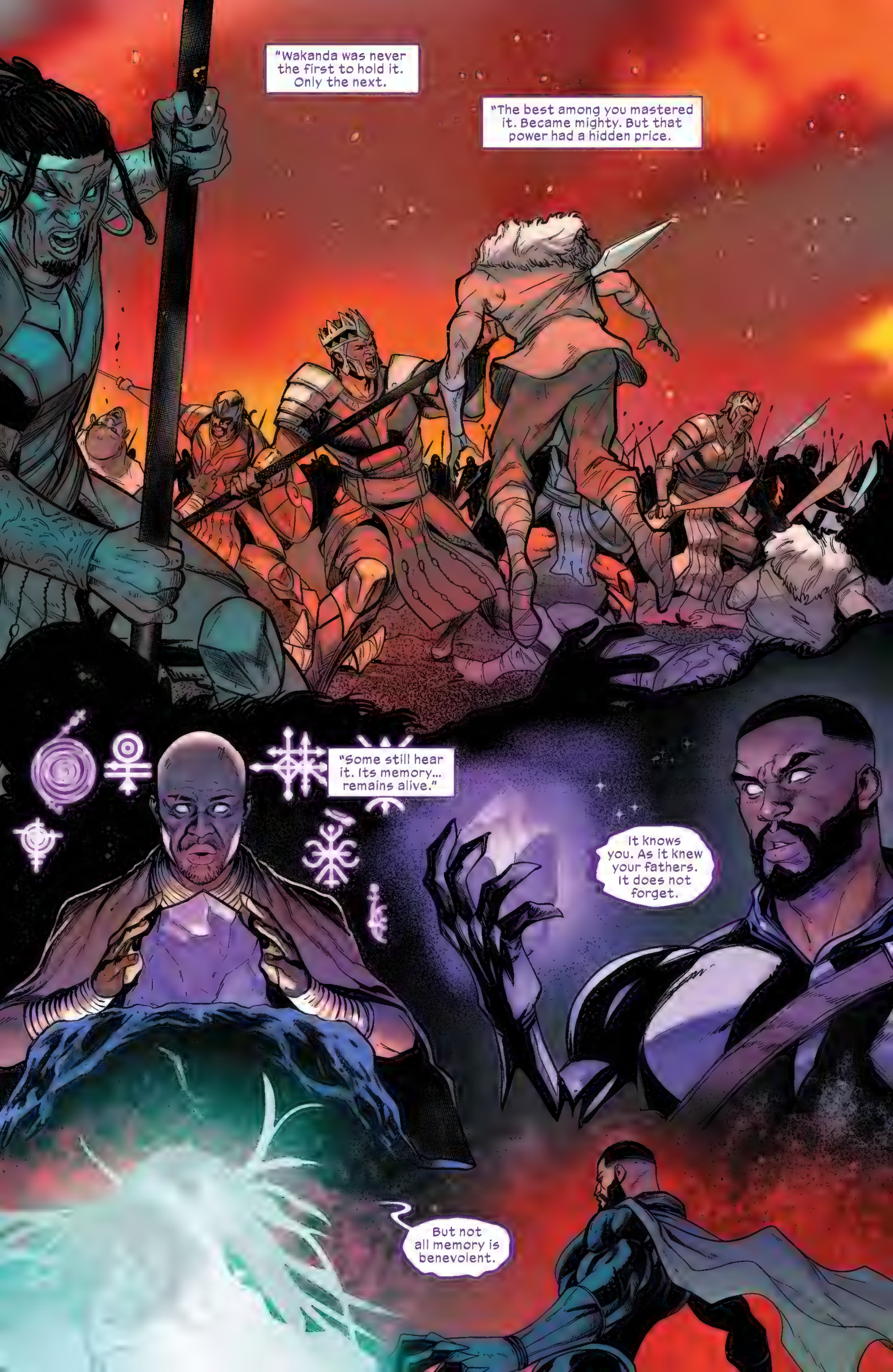


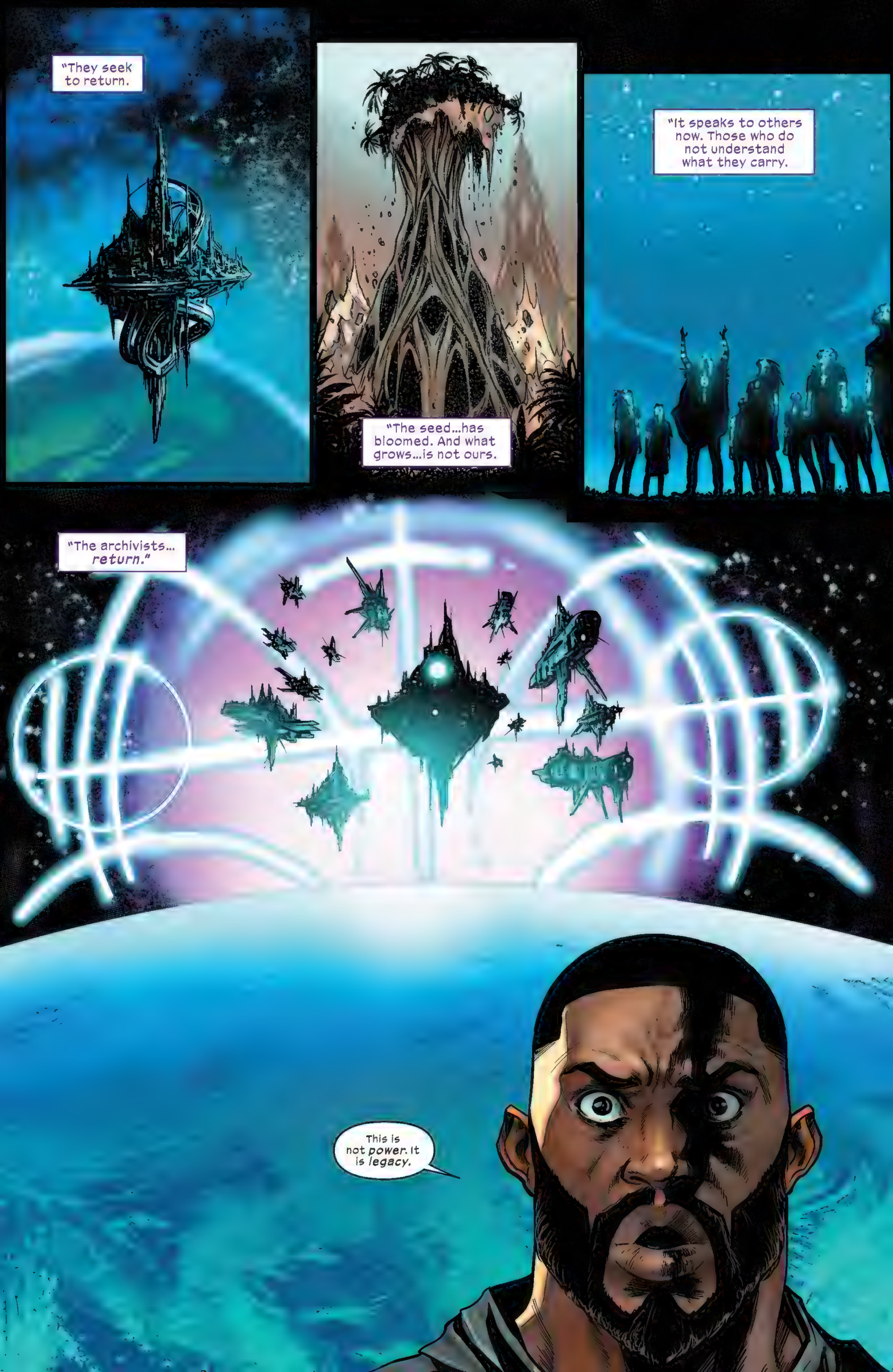
INAN
THE SORCERER
SUPREME

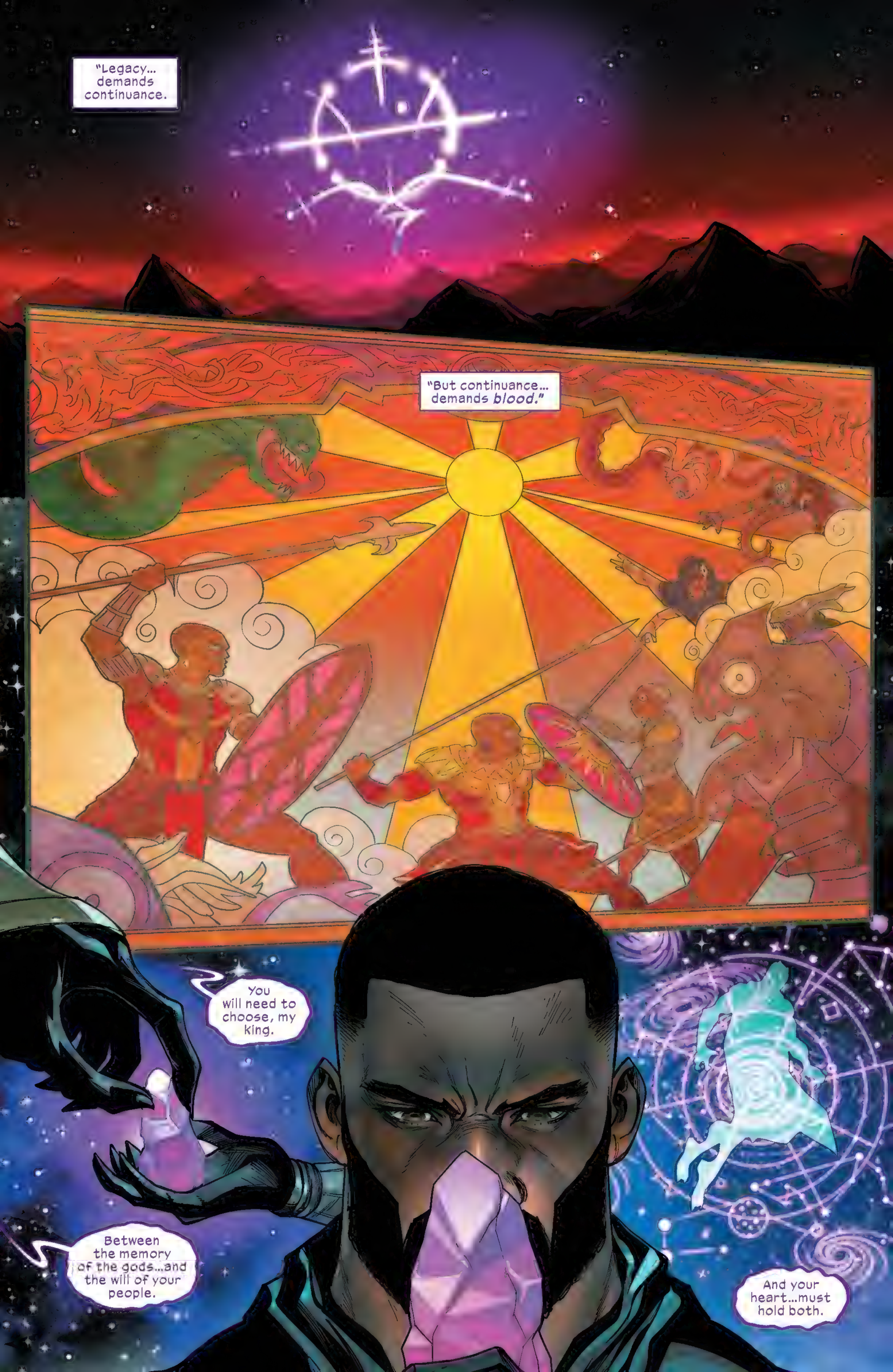
SEPTEMBER 2025

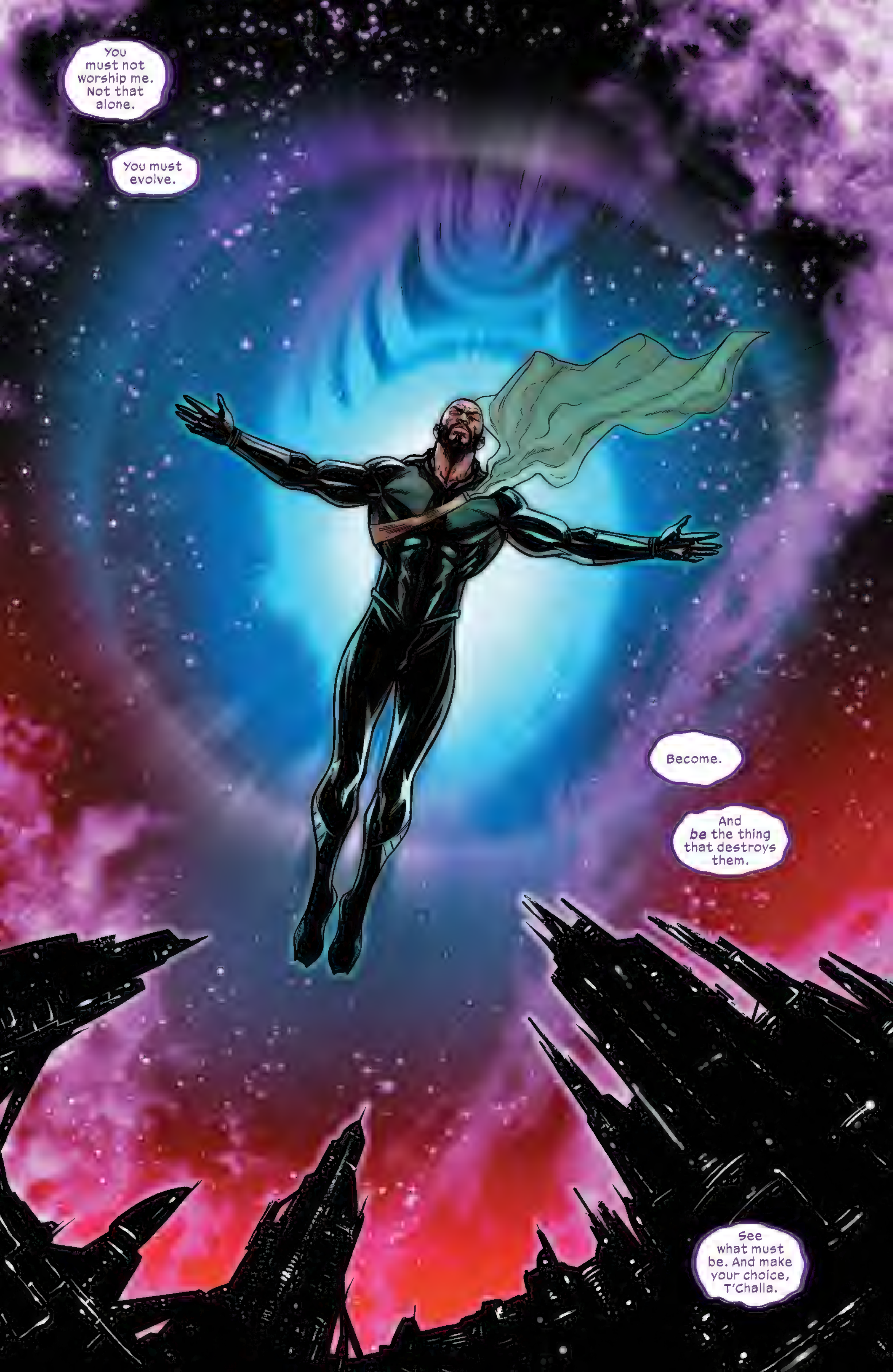

T'Challa, your body lies on the Earth, healing.
And your mind and soul are here with me.
Time is not a river, my child. It is a *wound.* And we are the blood that tries to heal it.
Long before Wakanda...the sky cracked.
"The heavens mourned, and in their mourning, they gave us a gift...
"...a metal unlike any other. It did not belong to this world.
"Those who touched it...heard a *voice.* Not from the stone, but from the beyond.

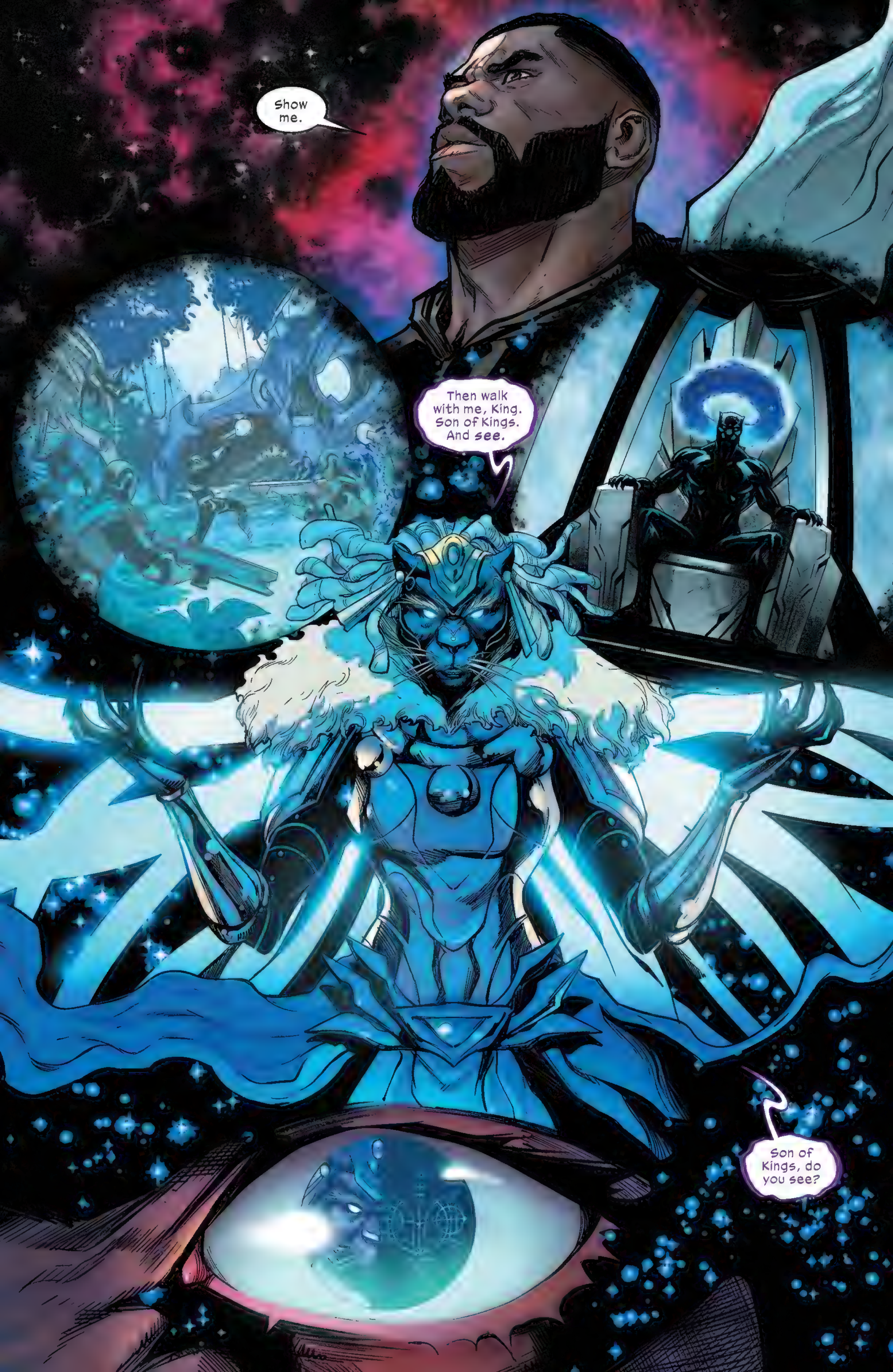

"It whispered in dreams. Not commands, but *invitations.* To shape the world. To elevate it.
"The metal taught us. It remembered what it once was...and it *shared.*
"It was forged not in nature...but in design. By a culture older than our imagination.
"They were not conquerors. They were *curators.* Archivists of matter. Scribes of energy.
"And their kingdom was dying.
"They sought worlds where they *could* conquer. And emerge as gods.
"And their final breath...was a prayer cast into the void.

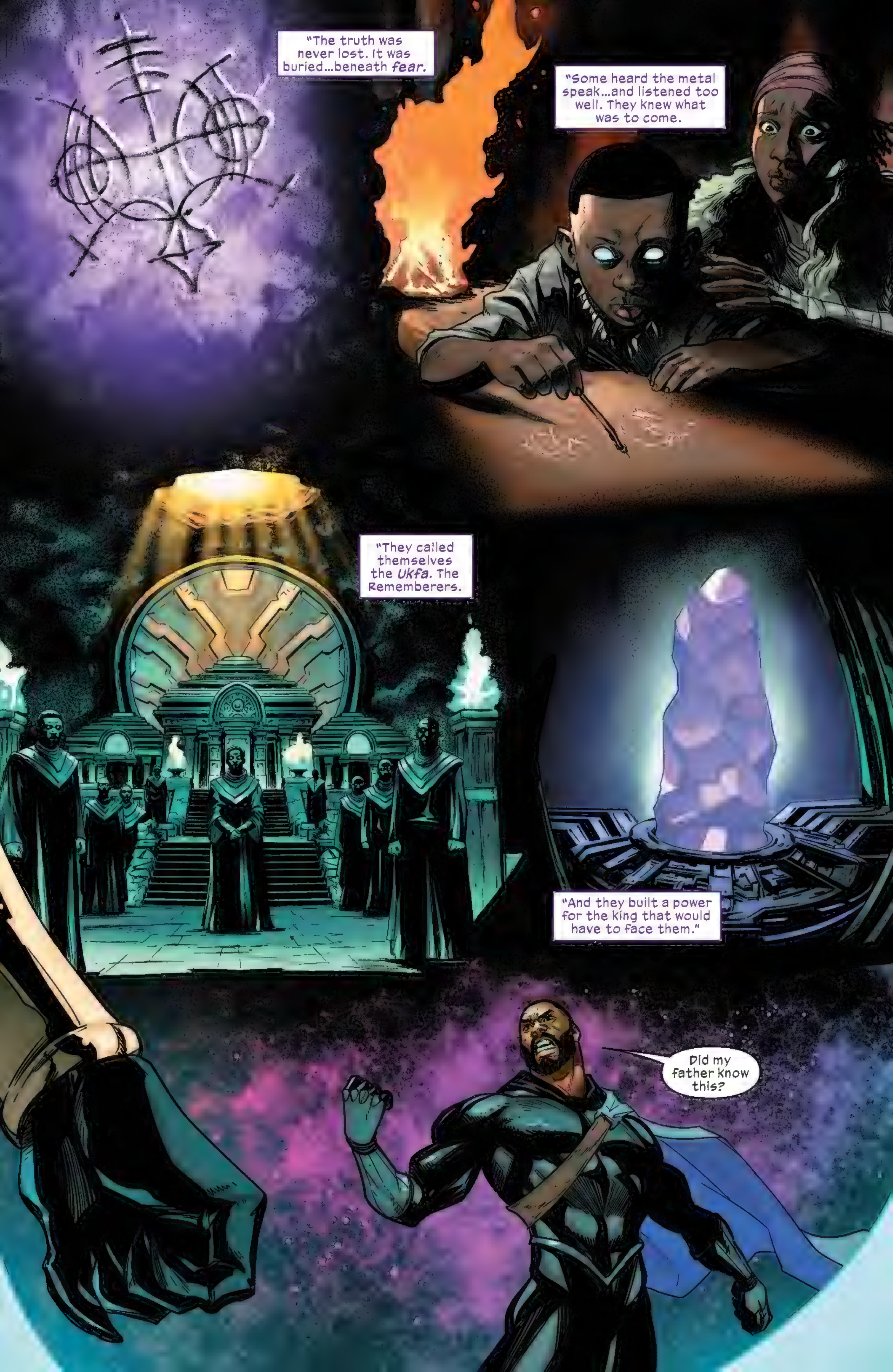

"Wakanda was never the first to hold it. Only the next.
"The best among you mastered it. Became mighty. But that power had a hidden price.
"Some still hear it. Its memory... remains alive."
It knows you. As it knew your fathers. It does not forget.
But not all memory is benevolent.

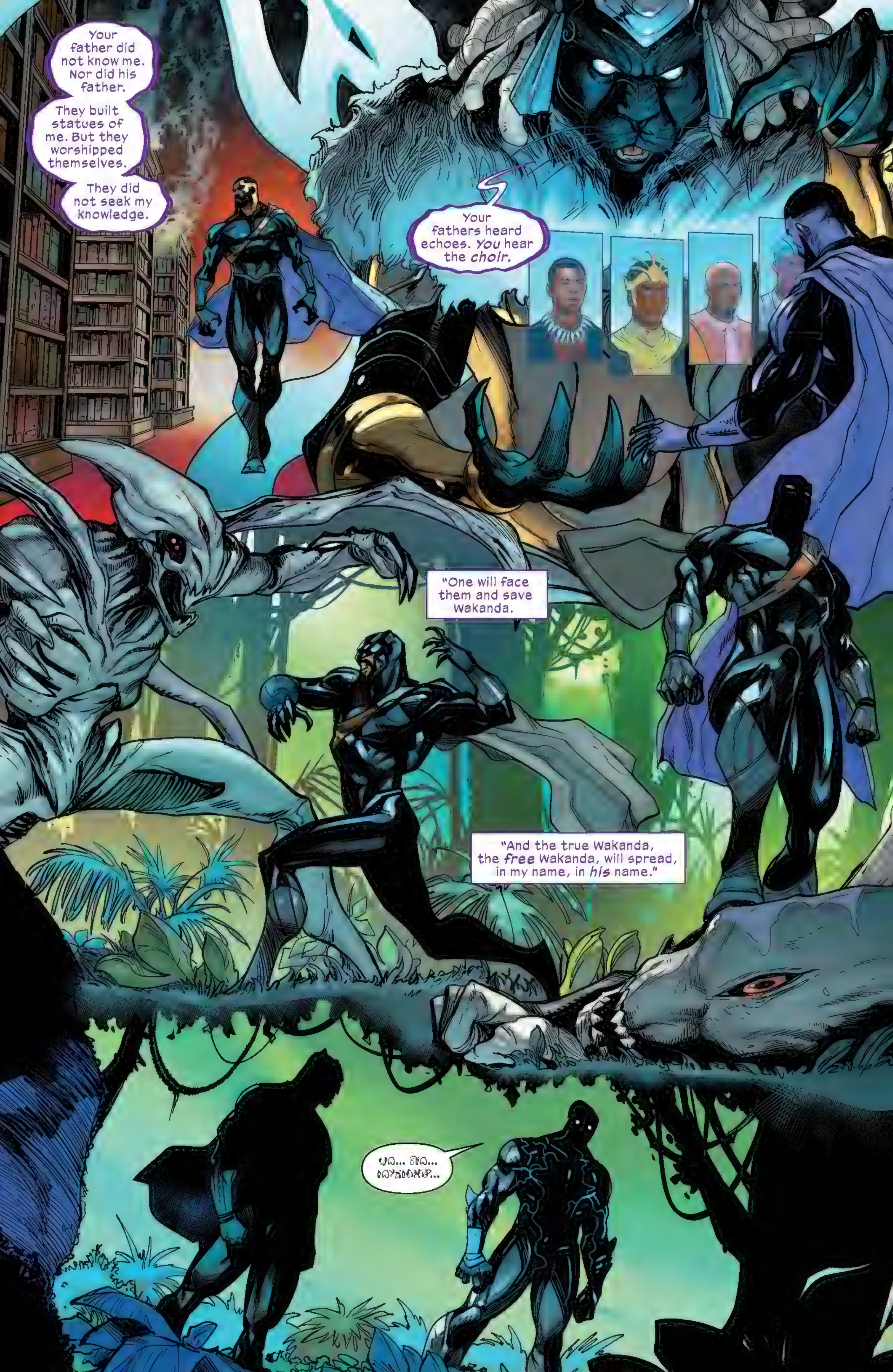

"They seek to return.
"The seed...has bloomed. And what grows...is not ours.
"It speaks to others now. Those who do not understand what they carry.
"The archivists... *return.*"
This is not *power.* It is *legacy.*

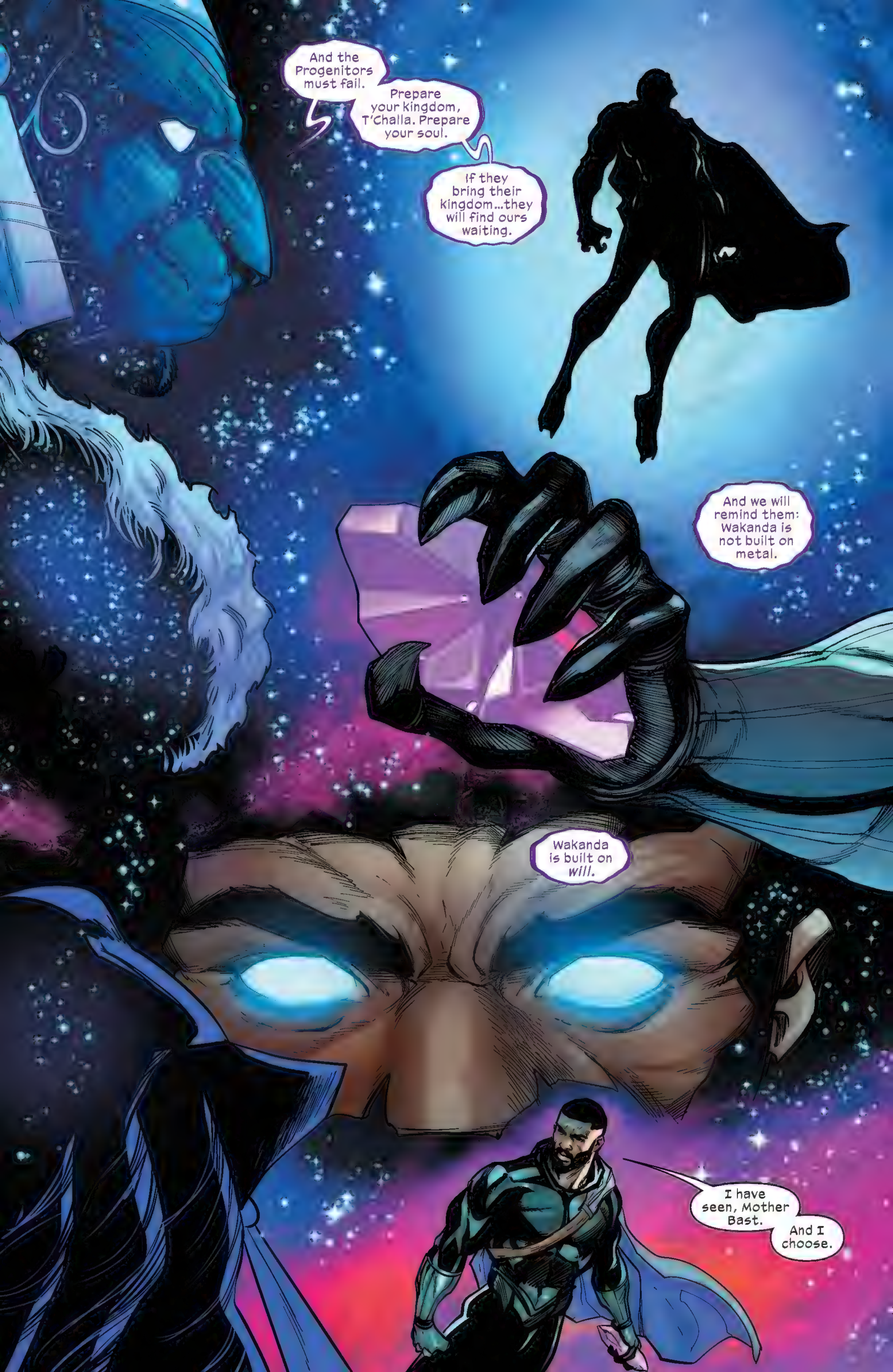

"Legacy... demands continuance.
"But continuance... demands *blood.*"
You will need to choose, my king.
Between the memory of the gods...and the will of your people.
And your heart...must hold both.

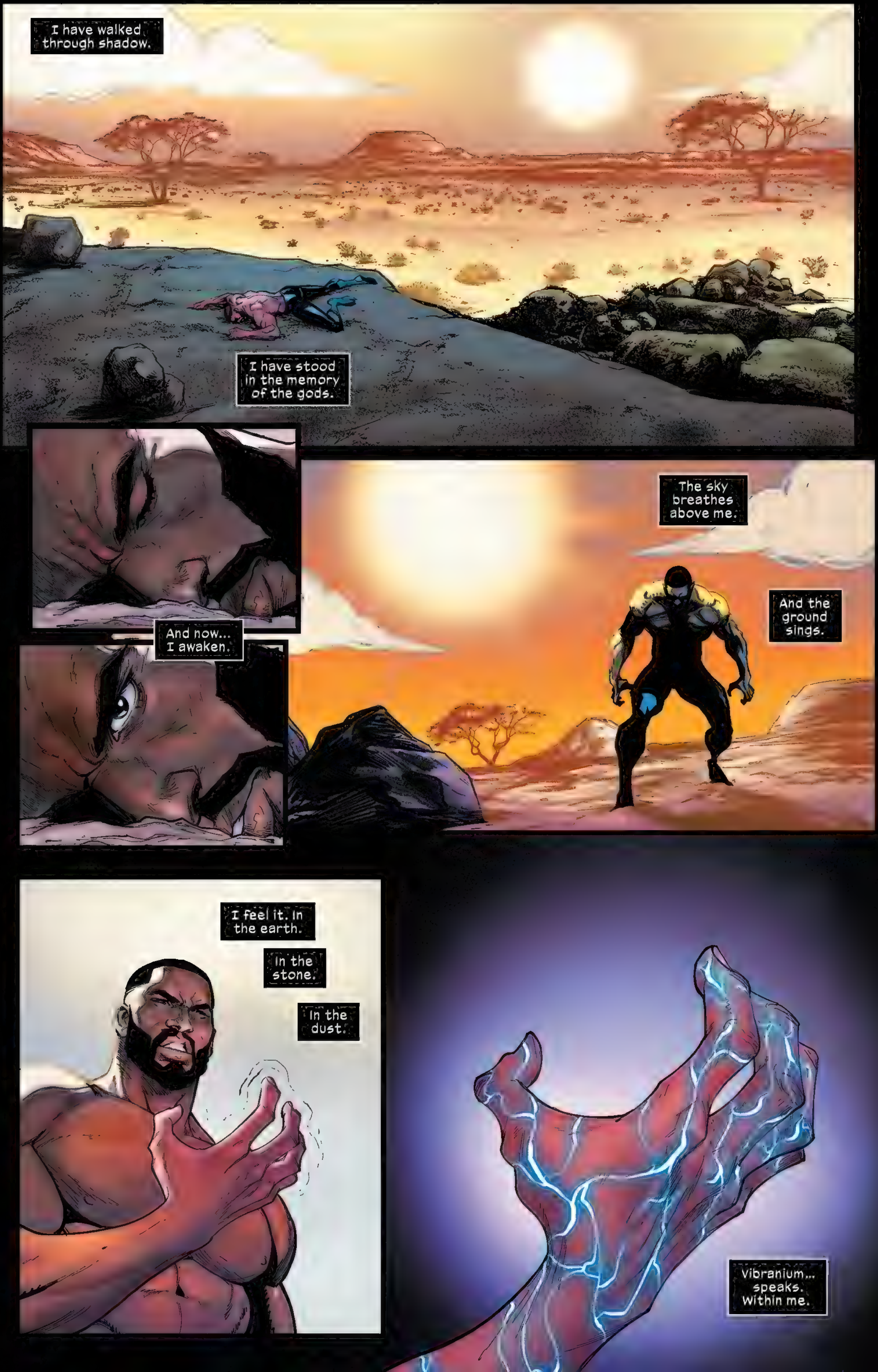

You must not worship me. Not that alone.
You must evolve.
Become.
And *be* the thing that destroys them.
See what must be. And make your choice, T'Challa.

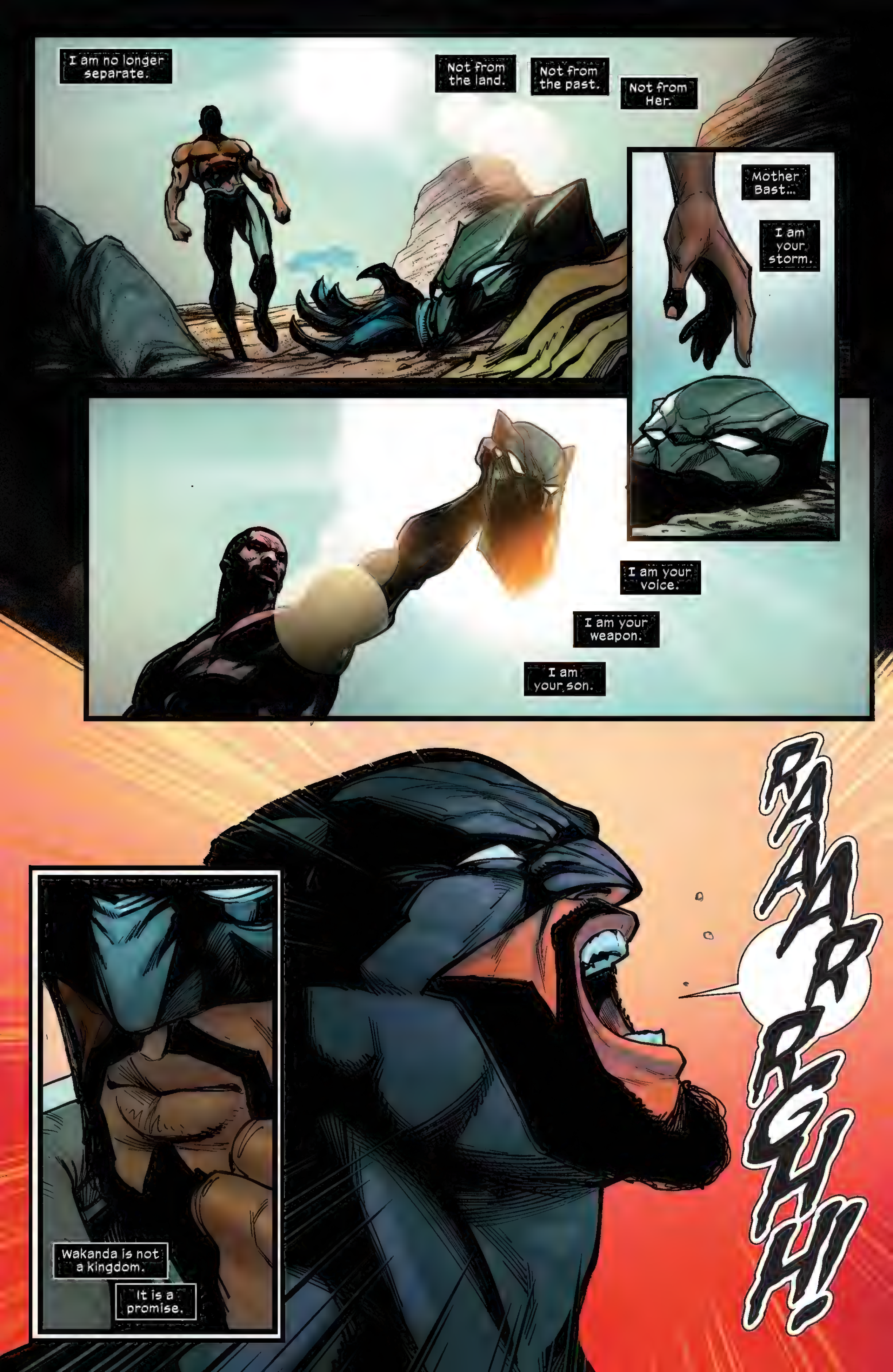

Show me.
Then walk with me, King. Son of Kings. And *see*.
Son of Kings, do you see?

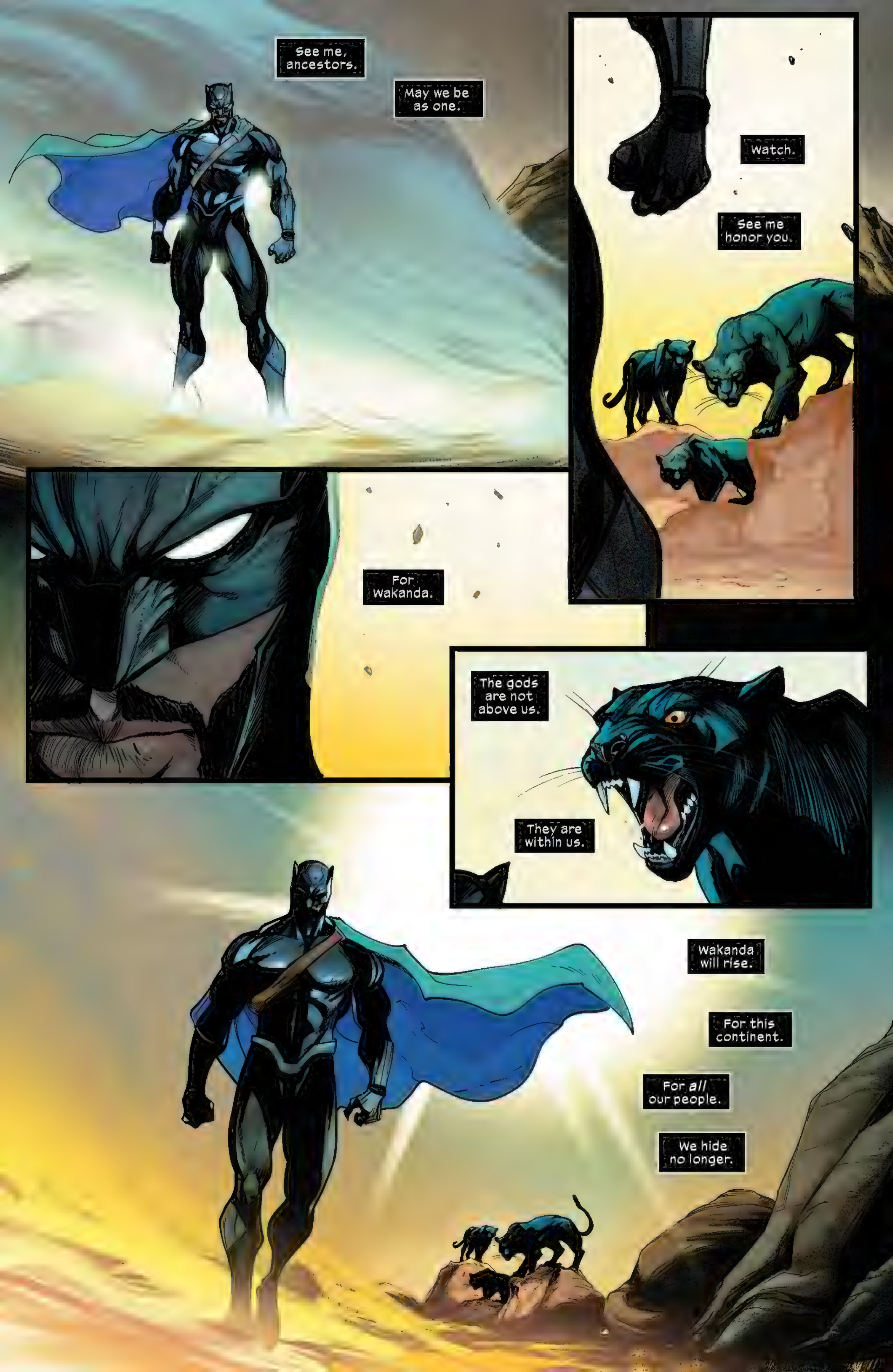

"The truth was never lost. It was buried...beneath *fear*.
"Some heard the metal speak...and listened too well. They knew what was to come.
"They called themselves the *Ukfa*. The Rememberers.
"And they built a power for the king that would have to face them."
Did my father know this?

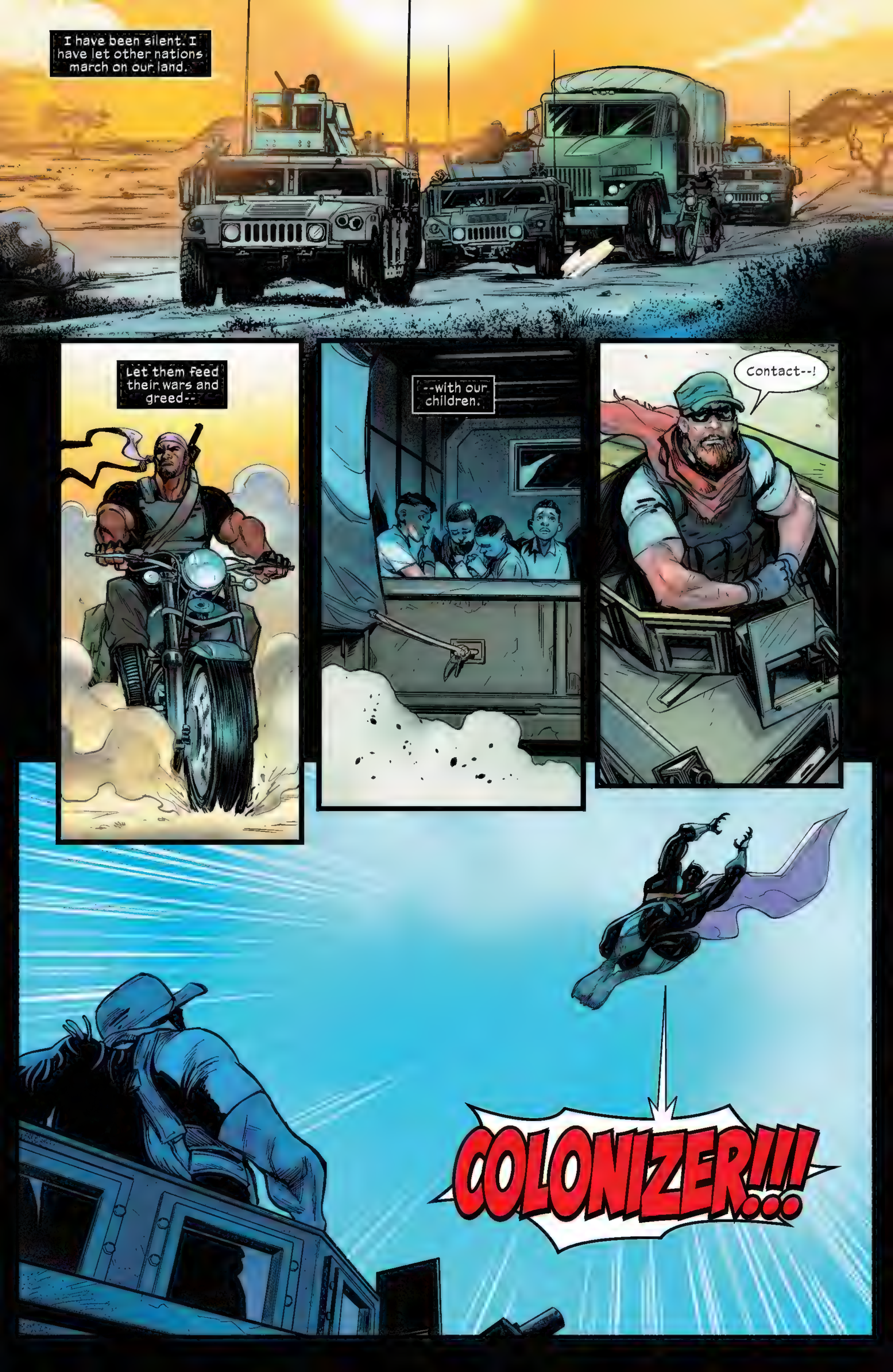

Your father did not know me. Nor did his father.
They built statues of me. But they worshipped themselves.
They did not seek my knowledge.
Your fathers heard echoes. *You* hear the *choir.*
"One will face them and save Wakanda.
"And the true Wakanda, the *free* Wakanda, will spread, in my name, in *his* name."

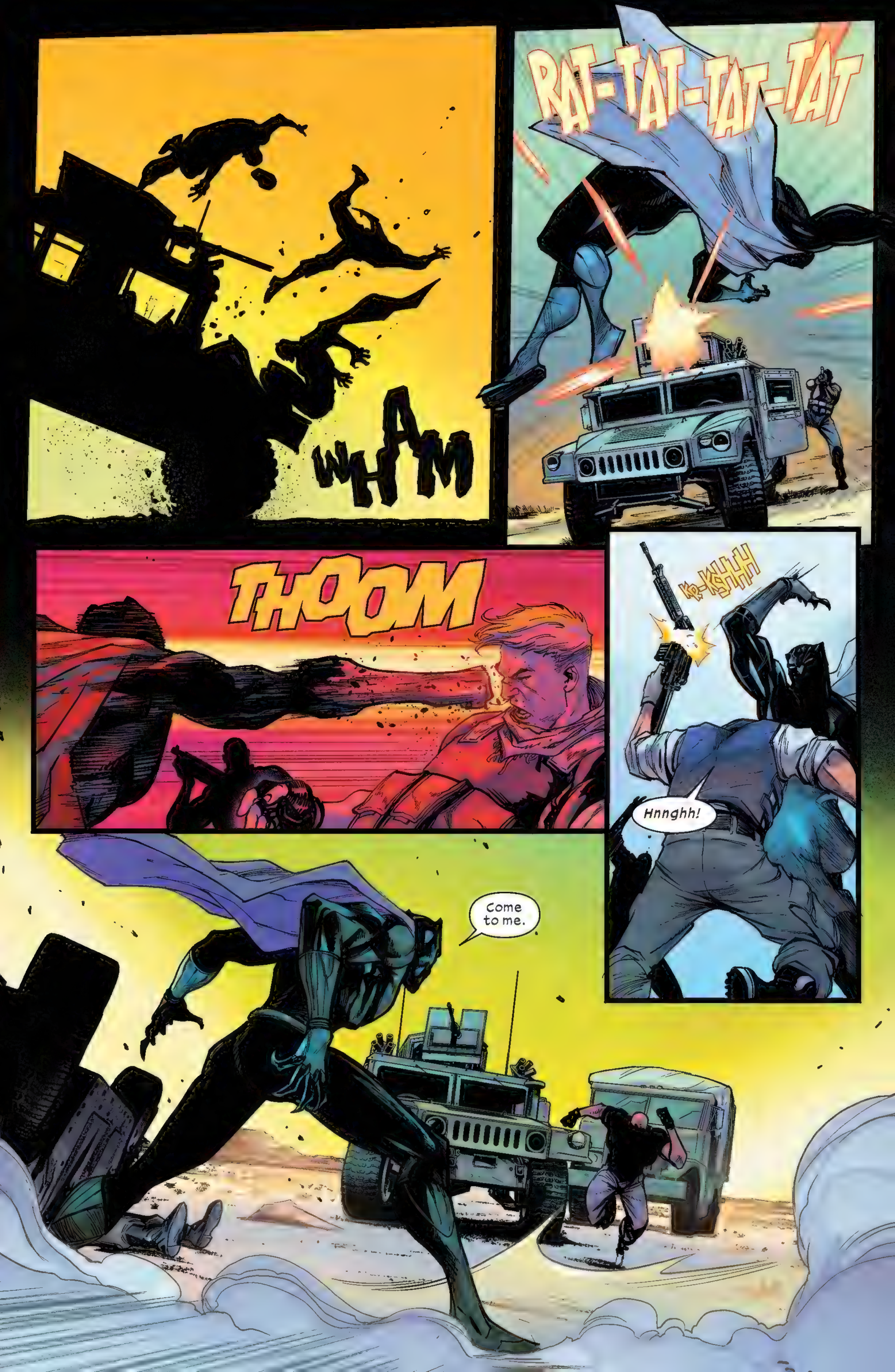

And the Progenitors must fail.
Prepare your kingdom, T'Challa. Prepare your soul.
If they bring their kingdom...they will find ours waiting.
And we will remind them: Wakanda is not built on metal.
Wakanda is built on *will*.
I have seen, Mother Bast.
And I choose.

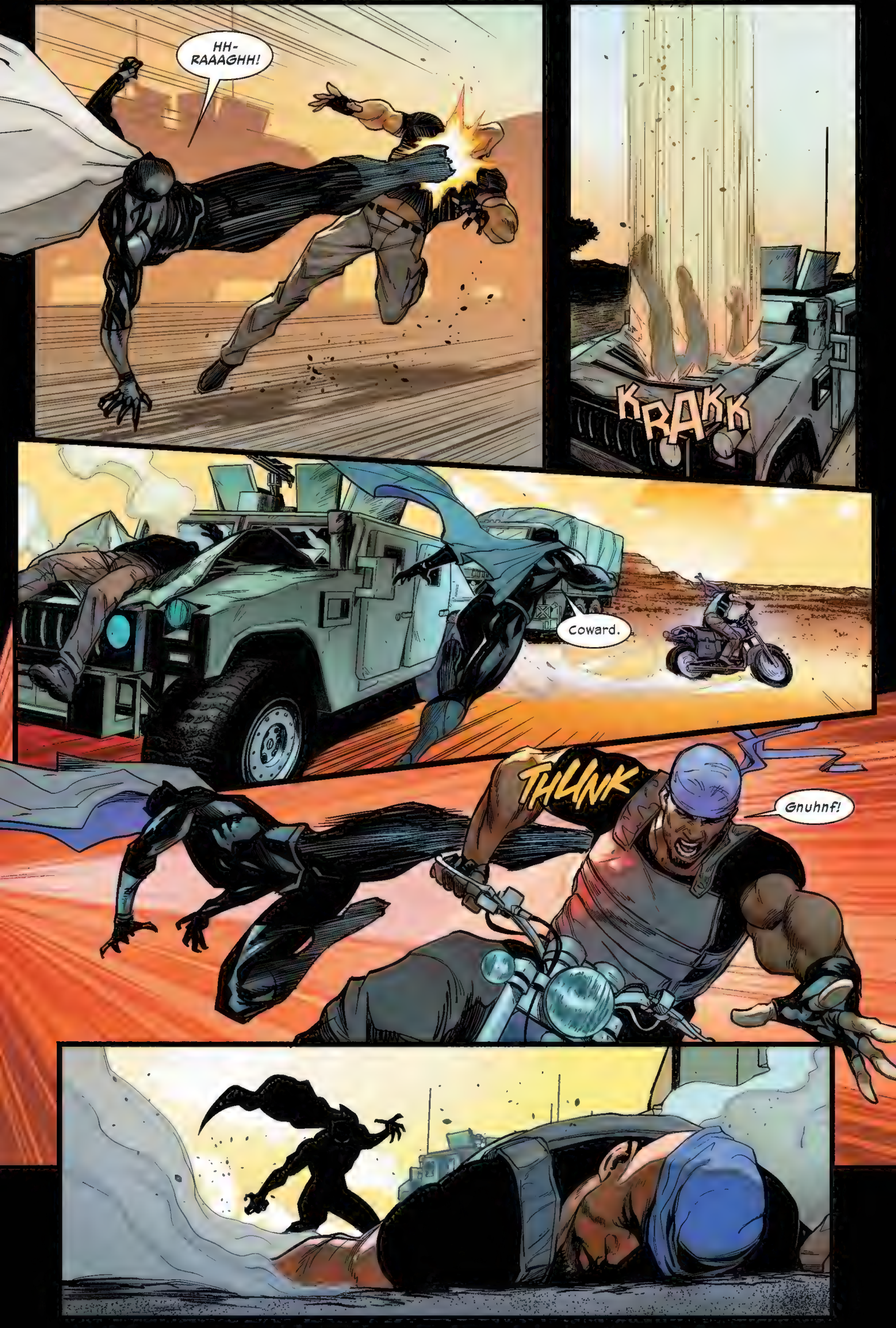

I have walked through shadow.
I have stood in the memory of the gods.
And now... I awaken.
The sky breathes above me.
And the ground sings.
I feel it. In the earth.
In the stone.
In the dust.
Vibranium... speaks. Within me.

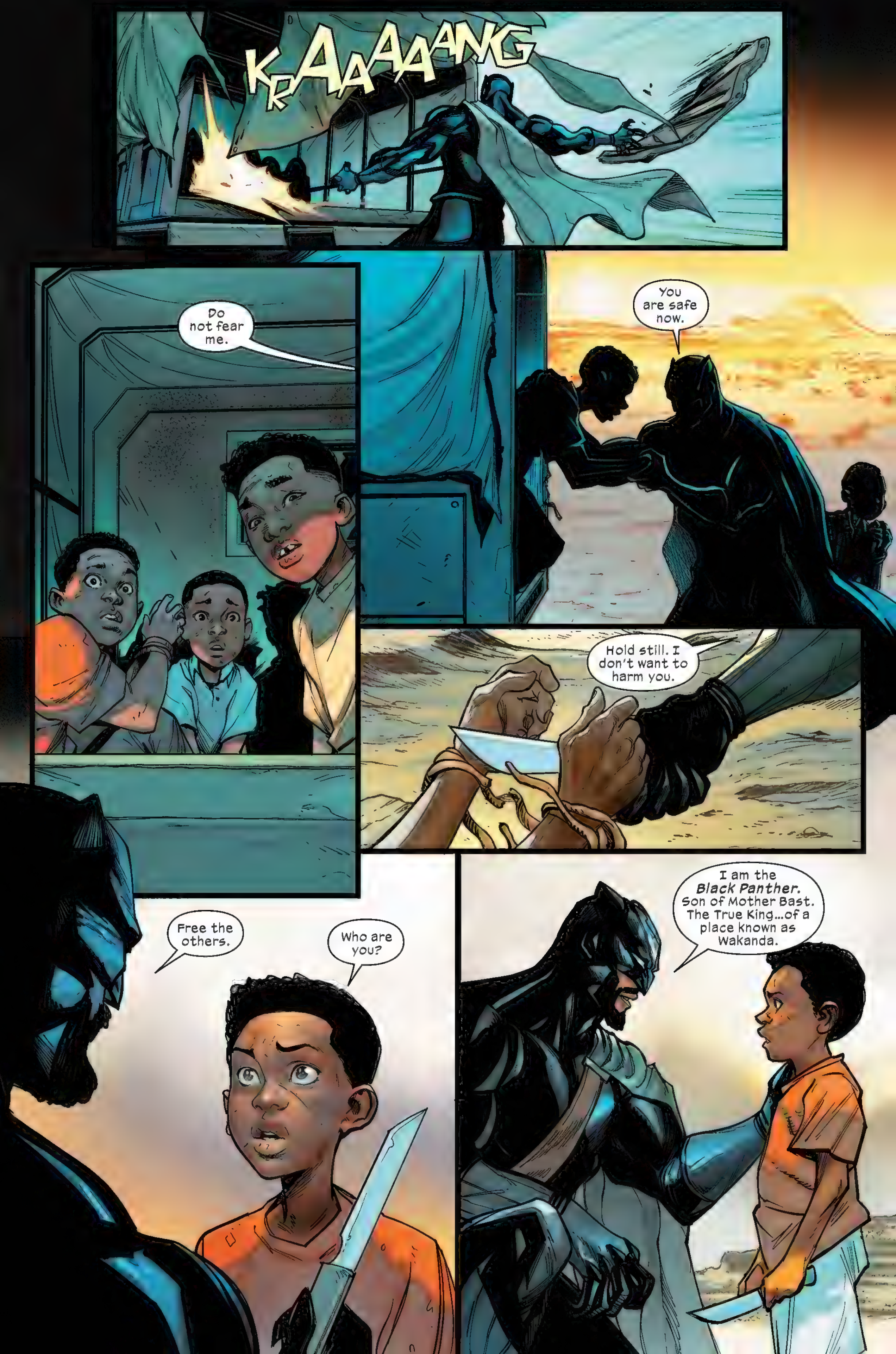

I am no longer separate.
Not from the land.
Not from the past.
Not from Her.
Mother Bast...
I am your storm.
I am your voice.
I am your weapon.
I am your son.
RAARRGHH!
Wakanda is not a kingdom.
It is a promise.

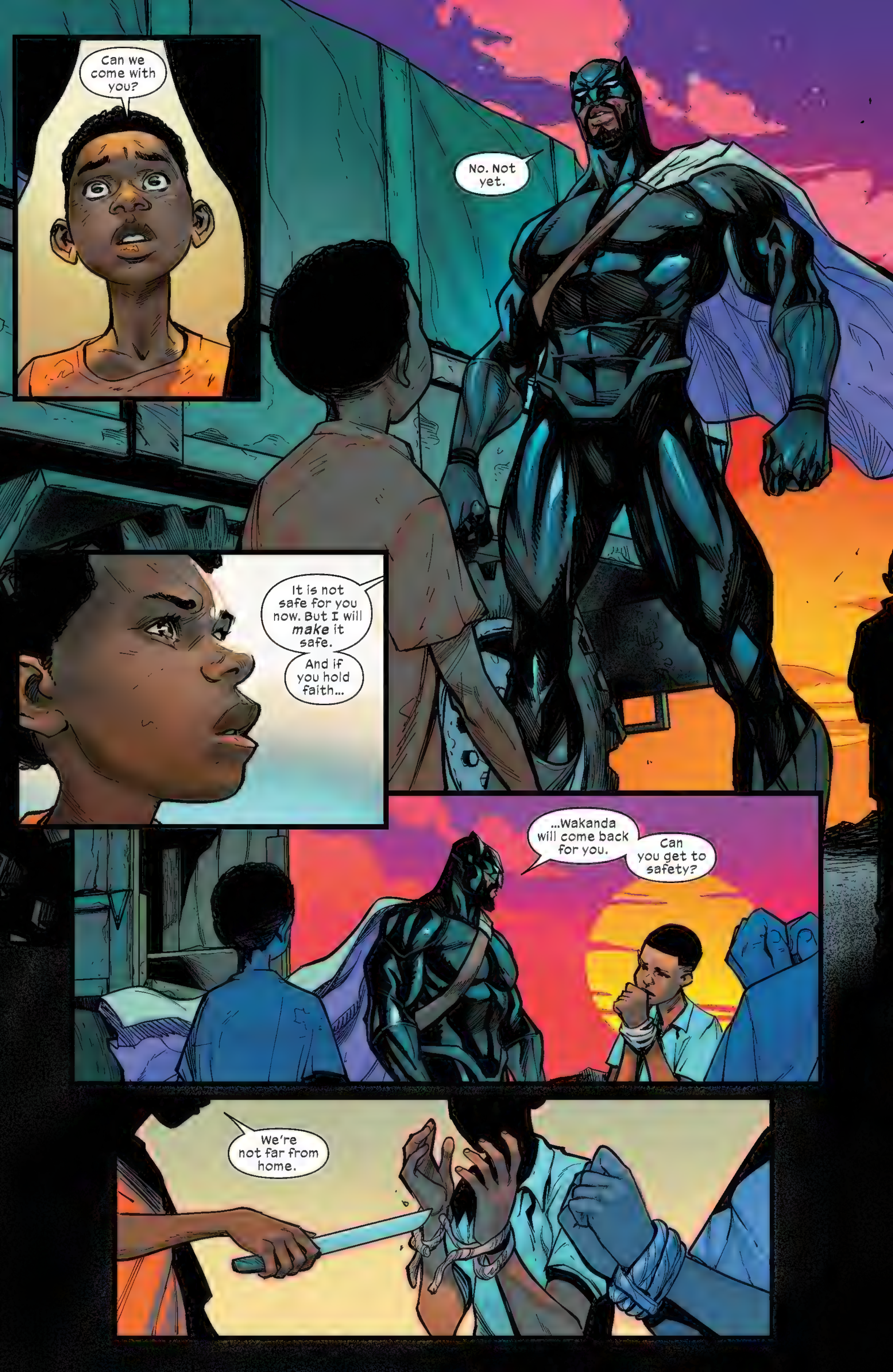

See me, ancestors.
May we be as one.
Watch.
See me honor you.
For Wakanda.
The gods are not above us.
They are within us.
Wakanda will rise.
For this continent.
For *all* our people.
We hide no longer.

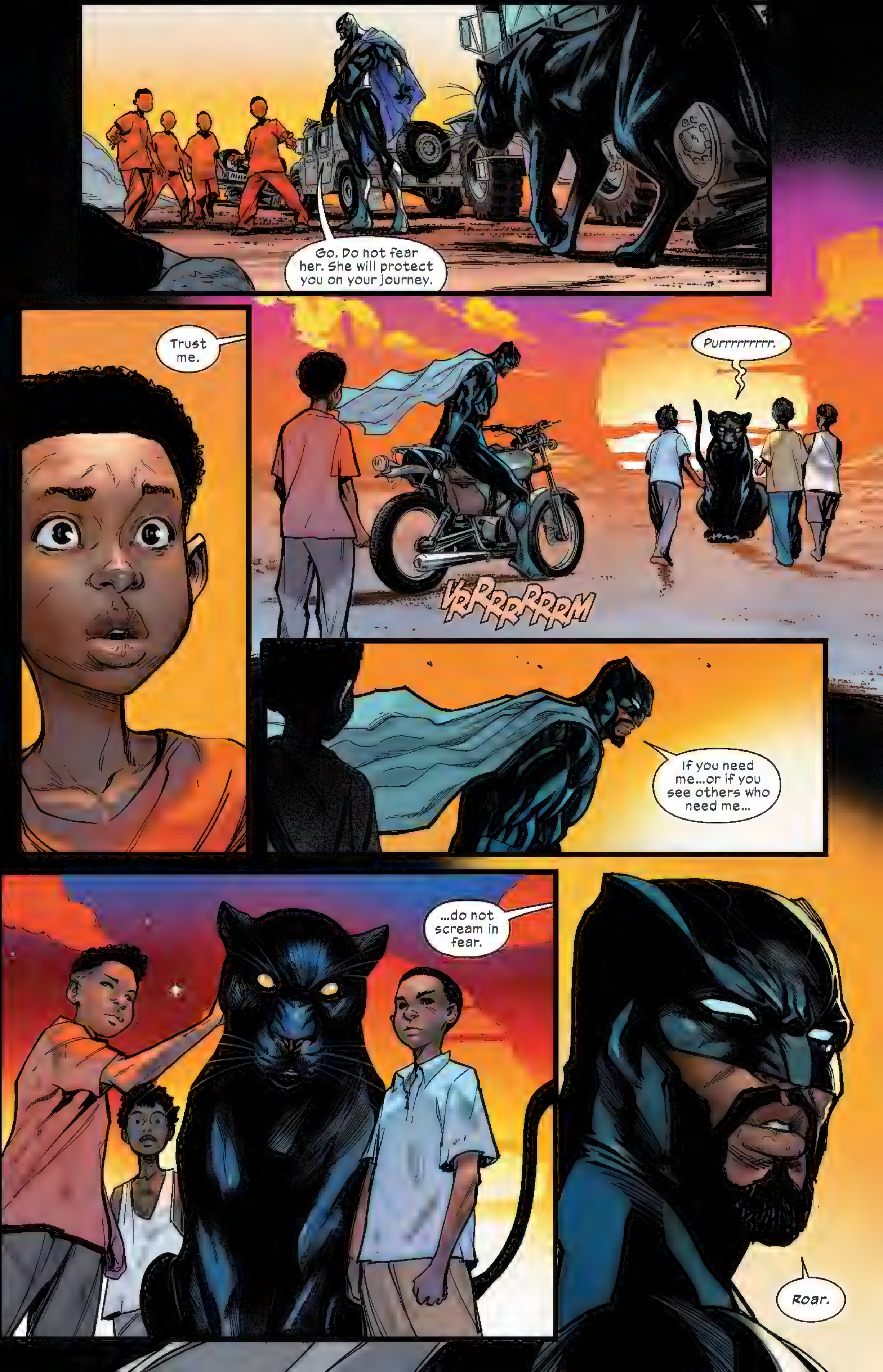

I have been silent. I have let other nations march on our land.
Let them feed their wars and greed--
--with our children.
Contact--!
COLONIZER!!!

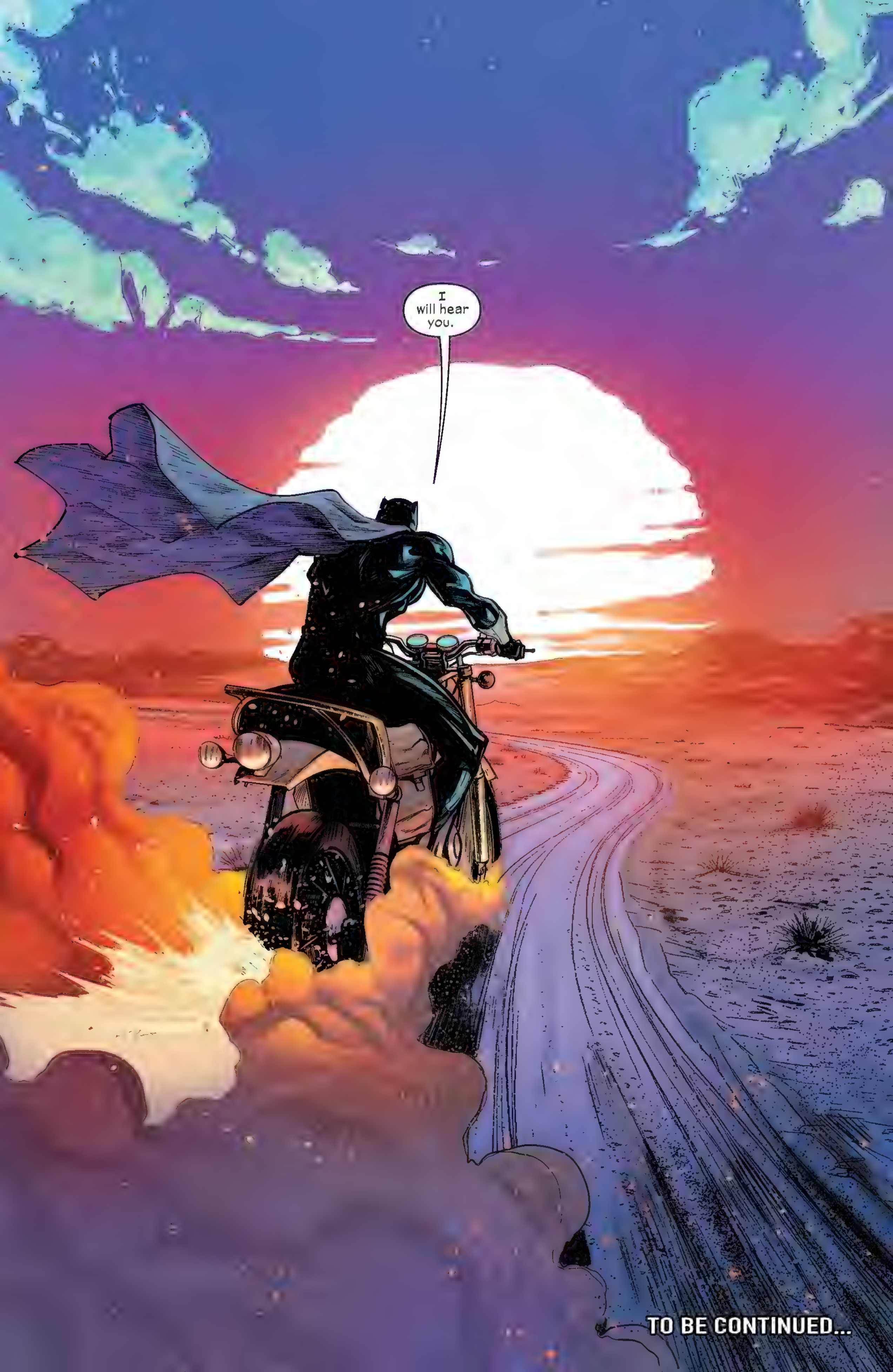

WHAM
RAT-TAT-TAT-TAT
THOOM
KA-KSHHH
Hnnghh!
Come to me.


HH-RAAAGHH!
KRAKK
Coward.
THUNK
Gnuhnf!


KRAAAAANG
Do not fear me.
You are safe now.
Hold still. I don't want to harm you.
Free the others.
Who are you?
I am the *Black Panther.* Son of Mother Bast. The True King...of a place known as Wakanda.


Can we come with you?
No. Not yet.
It is not safe for you now. But I will *make* it safe.
And if you hold faith...
...Wakanda will come back for you.
Can you get to safety?
We're not far from home.


Go. Do not fear her. She will protect you on your journey.
Trust me.
Purrrrrrrrr.
VRRRRRRRM
If you need me...or if you see others who need me...
...do not scream in fear.
Roar.


I will hear you.
TO BE CONTINUED...

WRITER: **BRYAN HILL**
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BLACK PANTHER CREATED BY **STAN LEE** & **JACK KIRBY**

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SPIDER-MAN: INCURSION
4

ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN: INCURSION #4

BY **DENIZ CAMP**, **CODY ZIGLAR**
& **JONAS SCHARF**

MARVEL
ULTIMATE
HAWKEYE

ULTIMATE HAWKEYE #1

BY **DENIZ CAMP**, **TABOO**, **B. EARL**,
JUAN FRIGERI & **MICHAEL STA. MARIA**

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU! EMAIL US AT **ULTIMATEOFFICE@MARVEL.COM** AND MARK YOUR LETTERS **"OKAY TO PRINT"**!

19

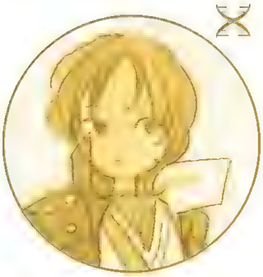
A diabolical genius known as **THE MAKER** used time travel to create his ideal Earth by systematically preventing anyone from ever becoming a super hero—except for those on his secret **MAKER'S COUNCIL**, whom he stationed to rule over different regions of the world.

HI NO KUNI ("LAND OF THE SUN") became one of two hotbeds for mutant activity, but civilians were unaware until social media exploded with the story of **CHILDREN OF THE ATOM**, a cult for mutant youth led by a zealot known as **MAESTER**.

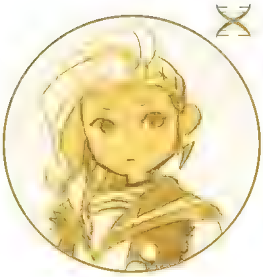
MEI IGARASHI (MAYSTORM) and her masked **X-MEN** freed **HISAKO ICHIKI (ARMOR)** from the cult's imprisonment, but Hisako and **SHINOBU KAGEYAMA (SHADOW KING)** disappeared inside **AKIHIRO** and the **ASTRAL PLANE**. This created Maester's ultimate biological weapon—**MY-X**. Weeks later, the X-Men recovered an unconscious Hisako. Meanwhile, Maester turned **NORIKO ASHIDA (SURGE)** into the first guinea pig for MY-X, sending her and his other cultists after all who stand in their way! And then he injected himself with MY-X...

ULTIMATE X-MEN

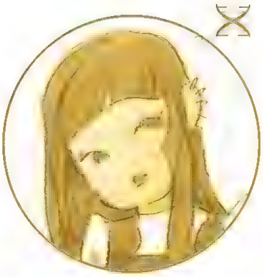
CAST:



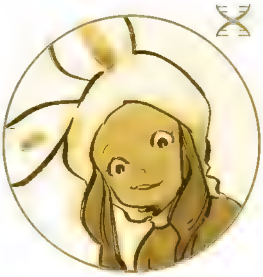
HISAKO ICHIKI
ARMOR



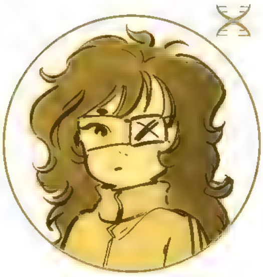
MEI IGARASHI
MAYSTORM



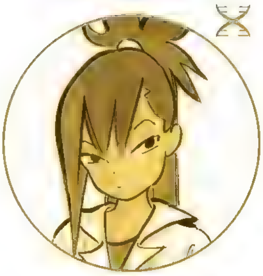
NICO MINORU
FLEDGLING PSYCHIC



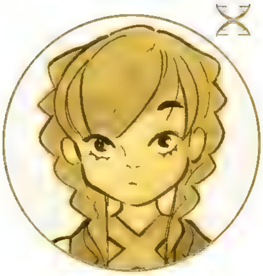
MORI
NICO'S FRIEND



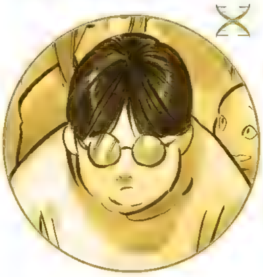
NATSU TSUKISHIMA
NICO'S FRIEND



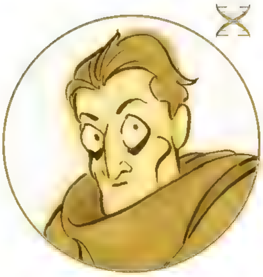
KANON SAINOUCHI
PSYLOCKE



NORIKO ASHIDA
SURGE

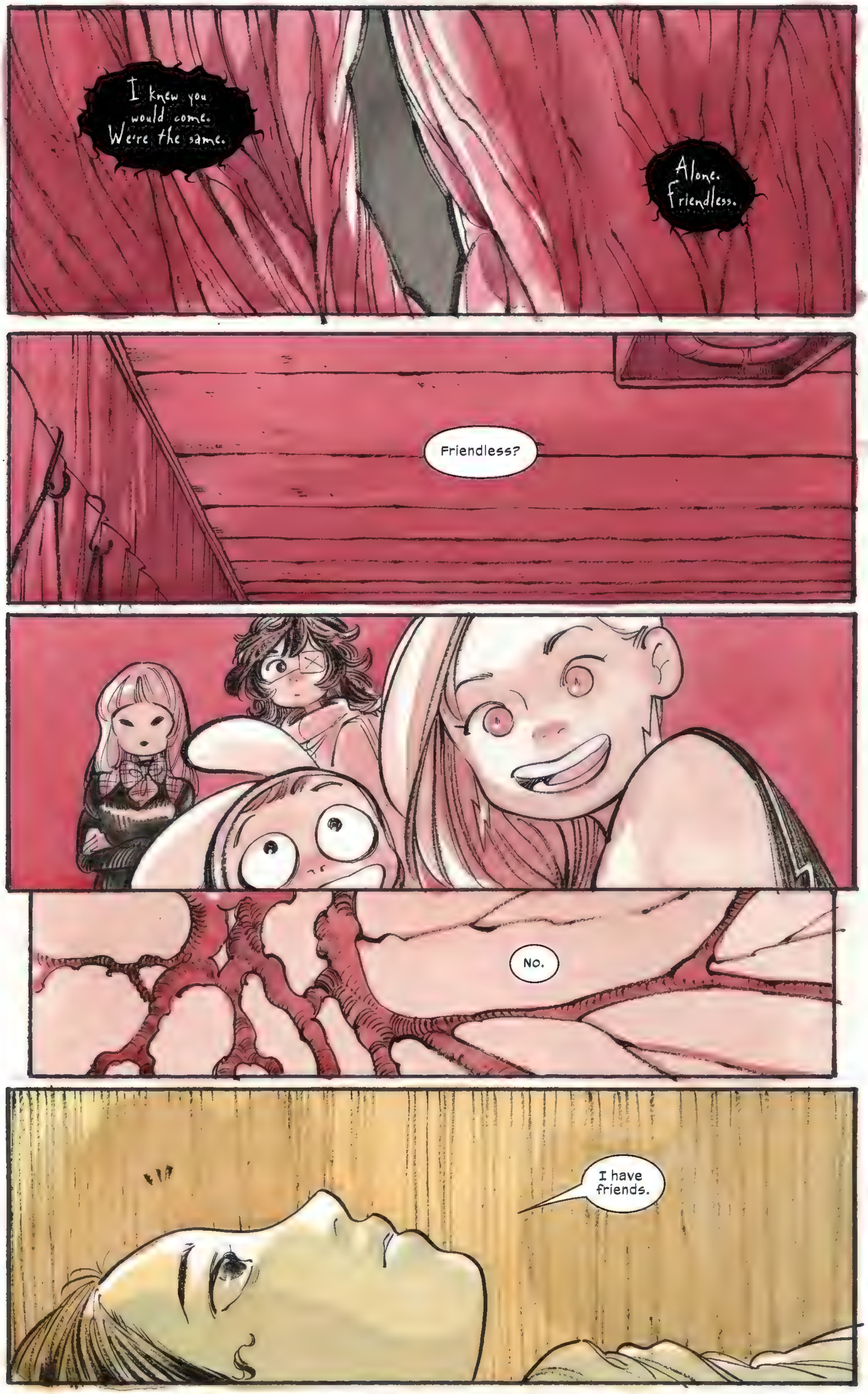


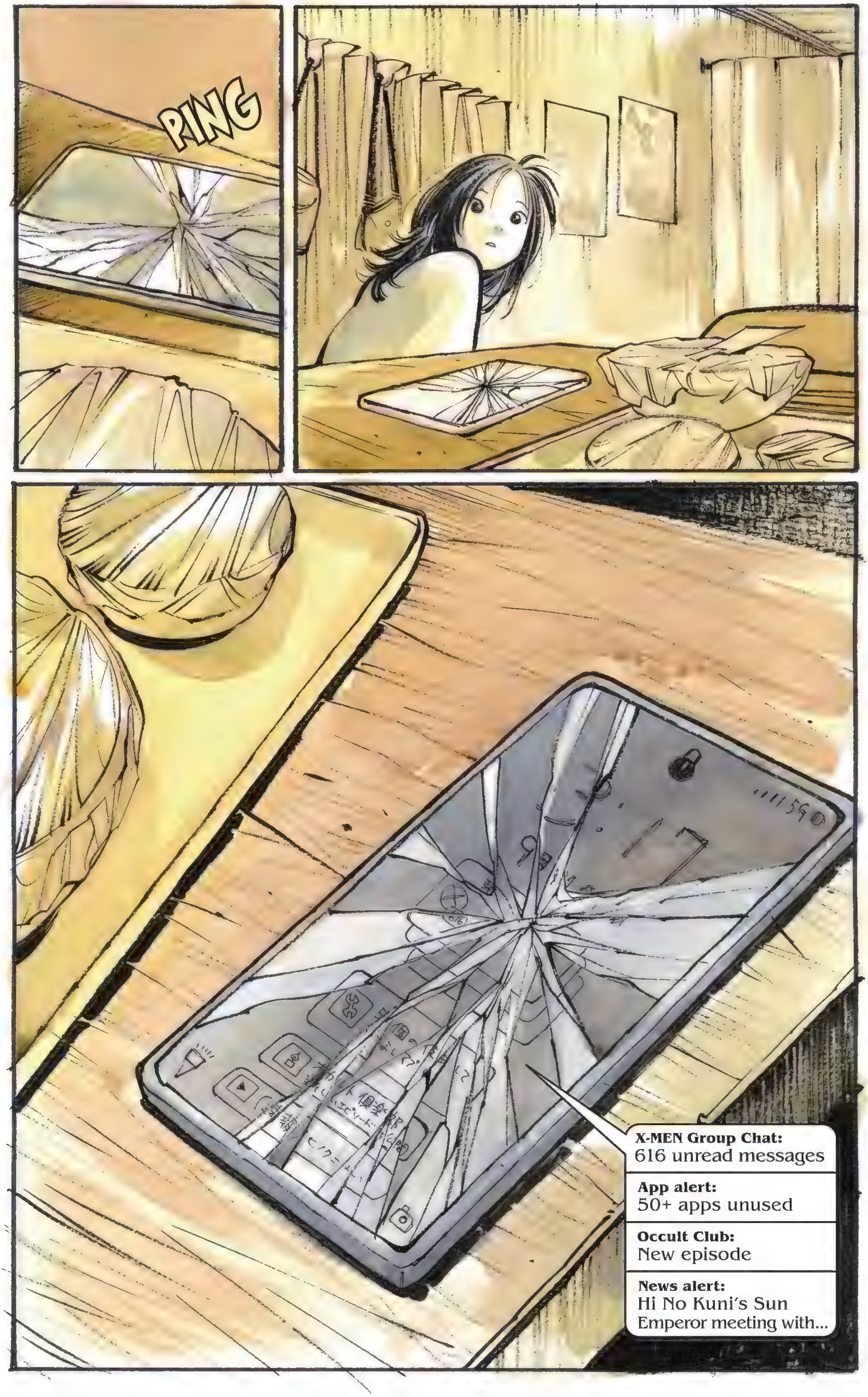
SHINOBU KAGEYAMA
SHADOW KING



MAESTER
CHILDREN OF THE
ATOM LEADER

SEPTEMBER 2025


I knew you would come. We're the same.
Alone. Friendless.
Friendless?
No.
I have friends.

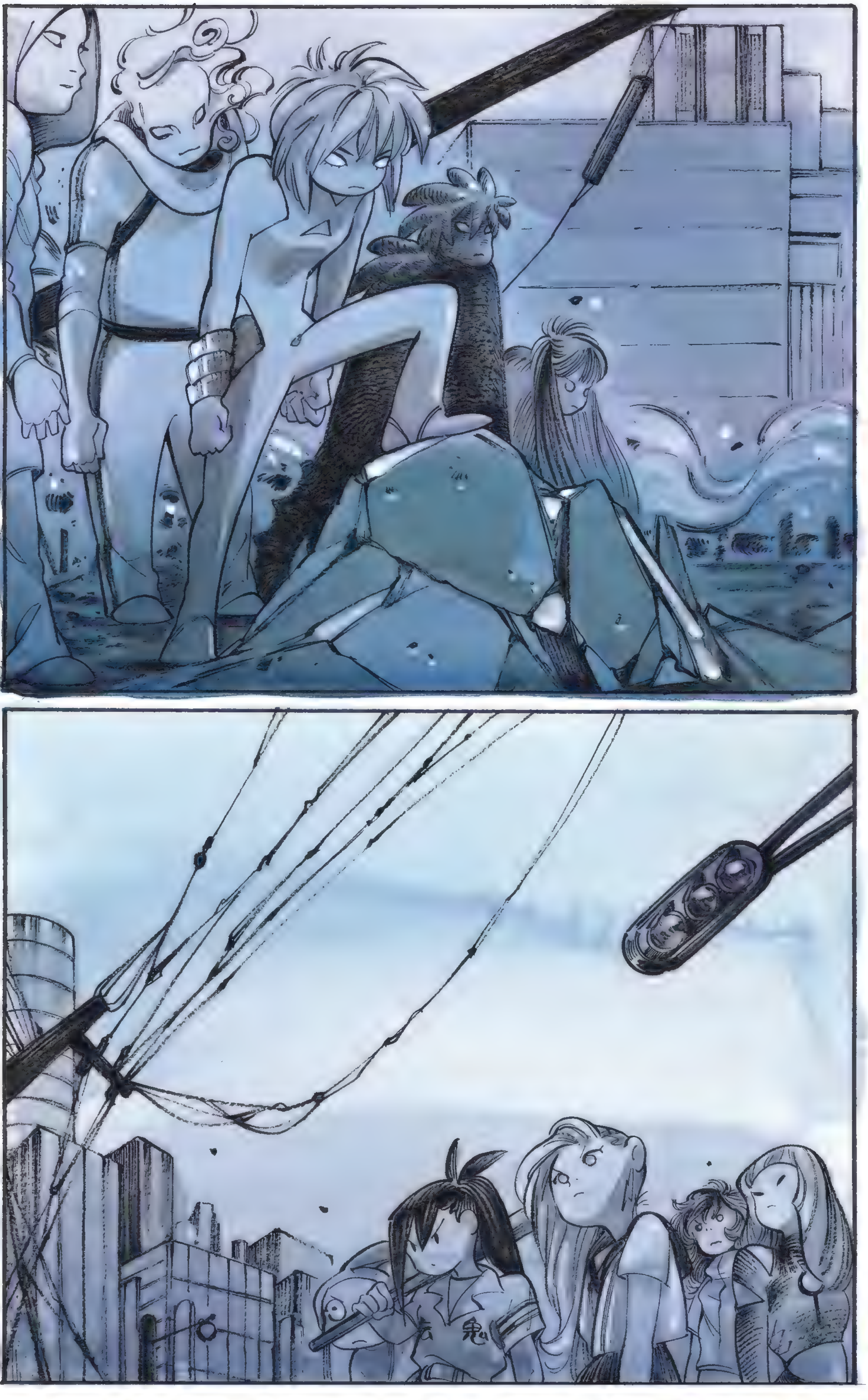


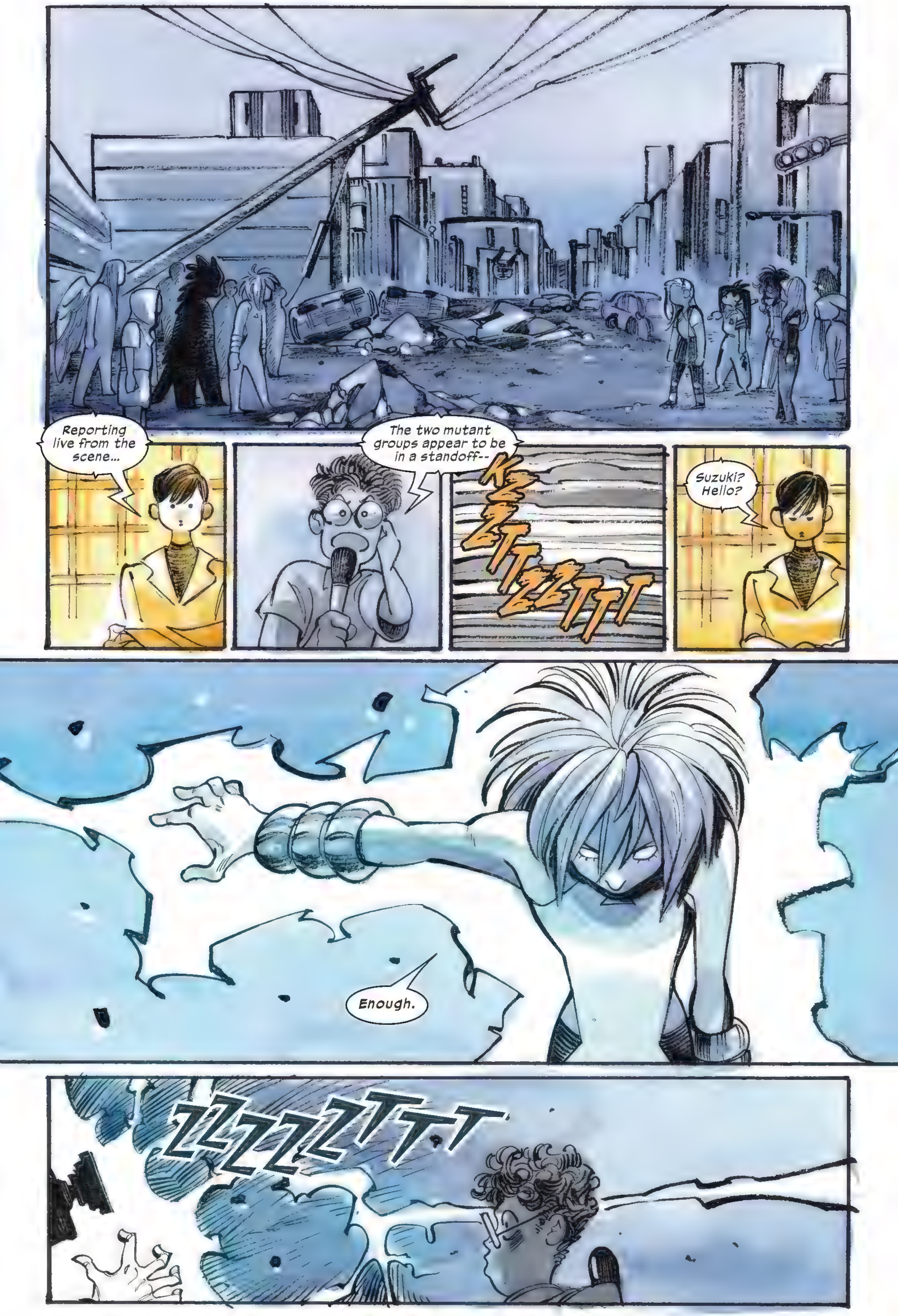
X-MEN Group Chat:
616 unread messages

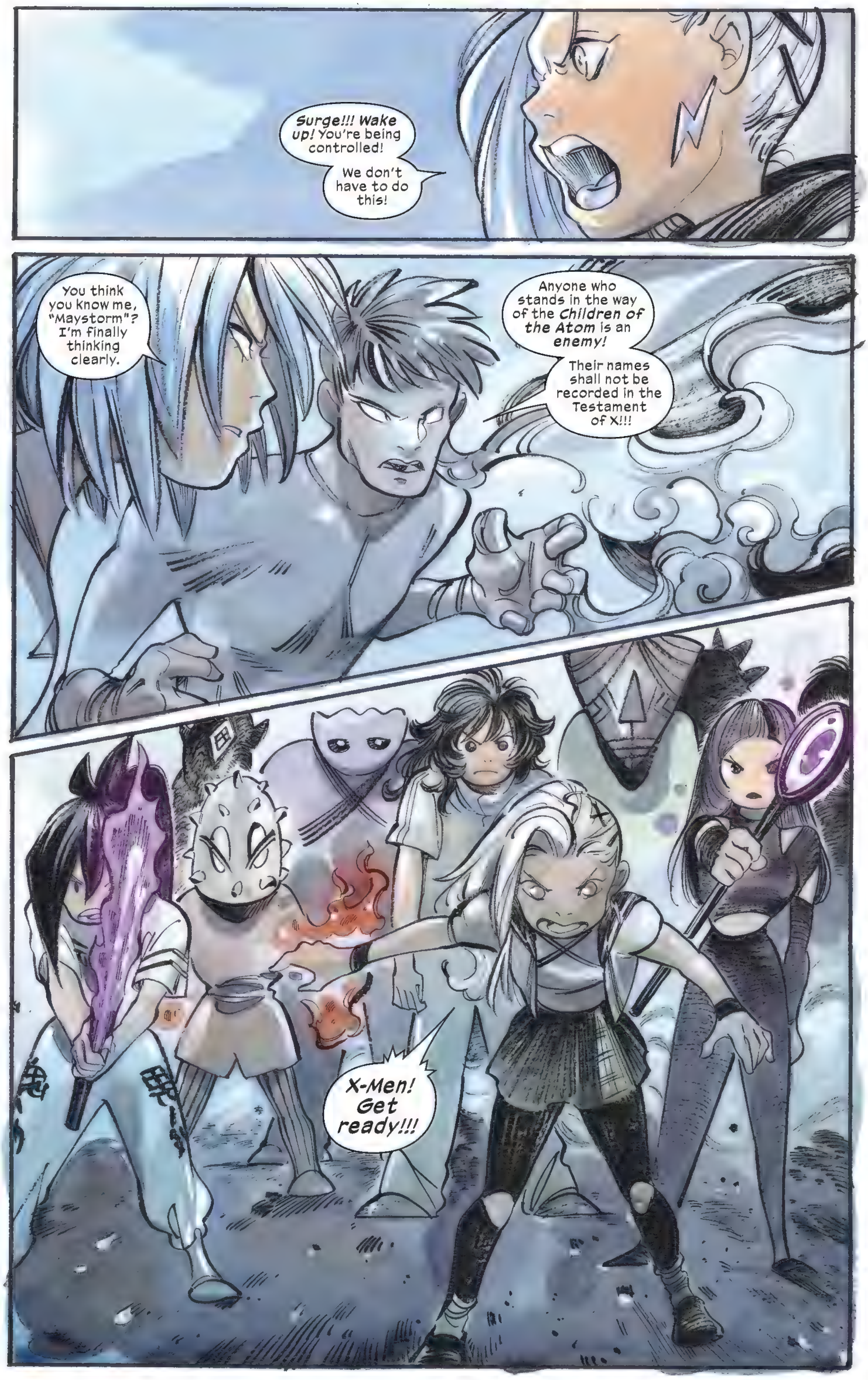
App alert:
50+ apps unused

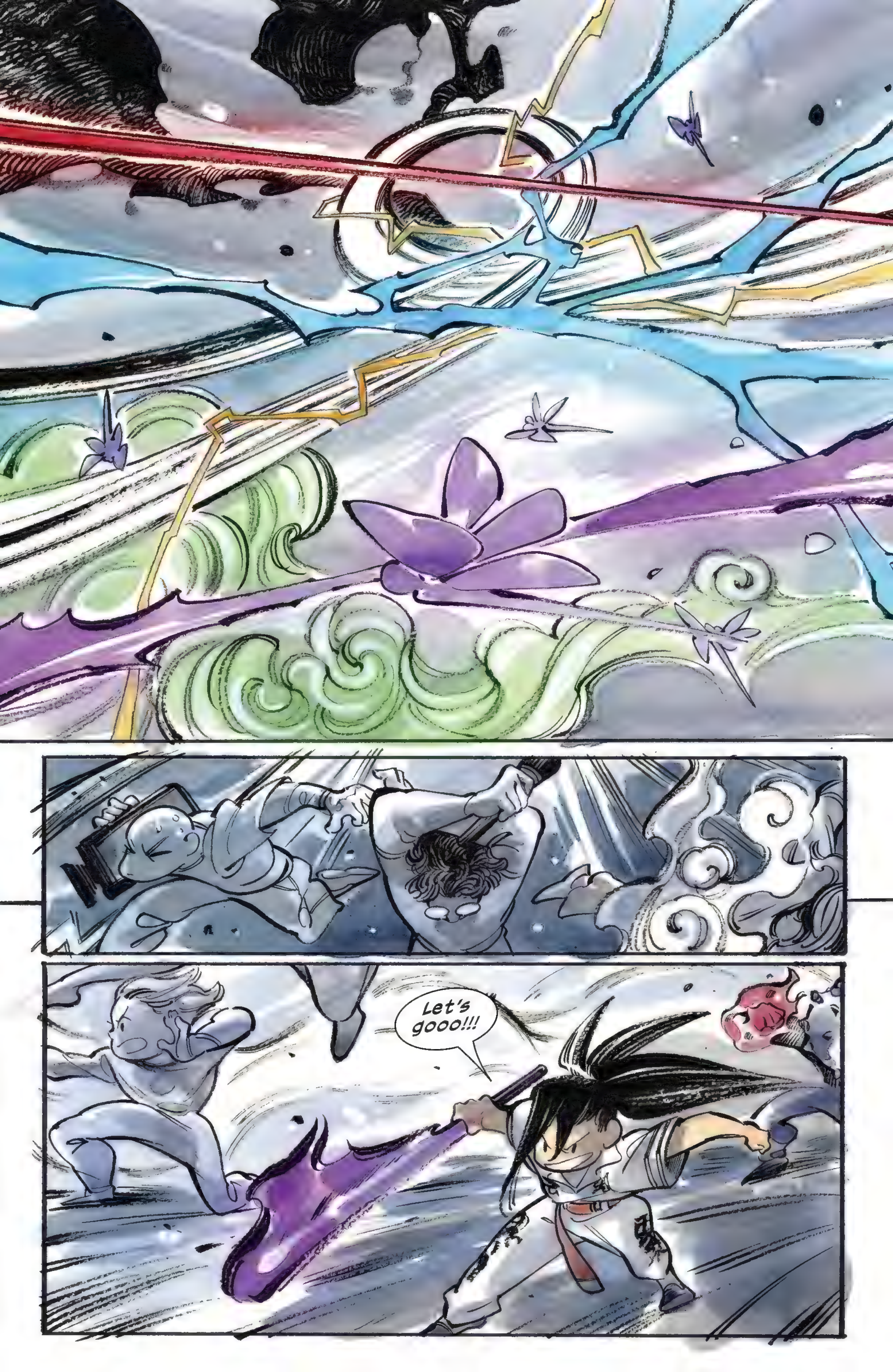
Occult Club:
New episode

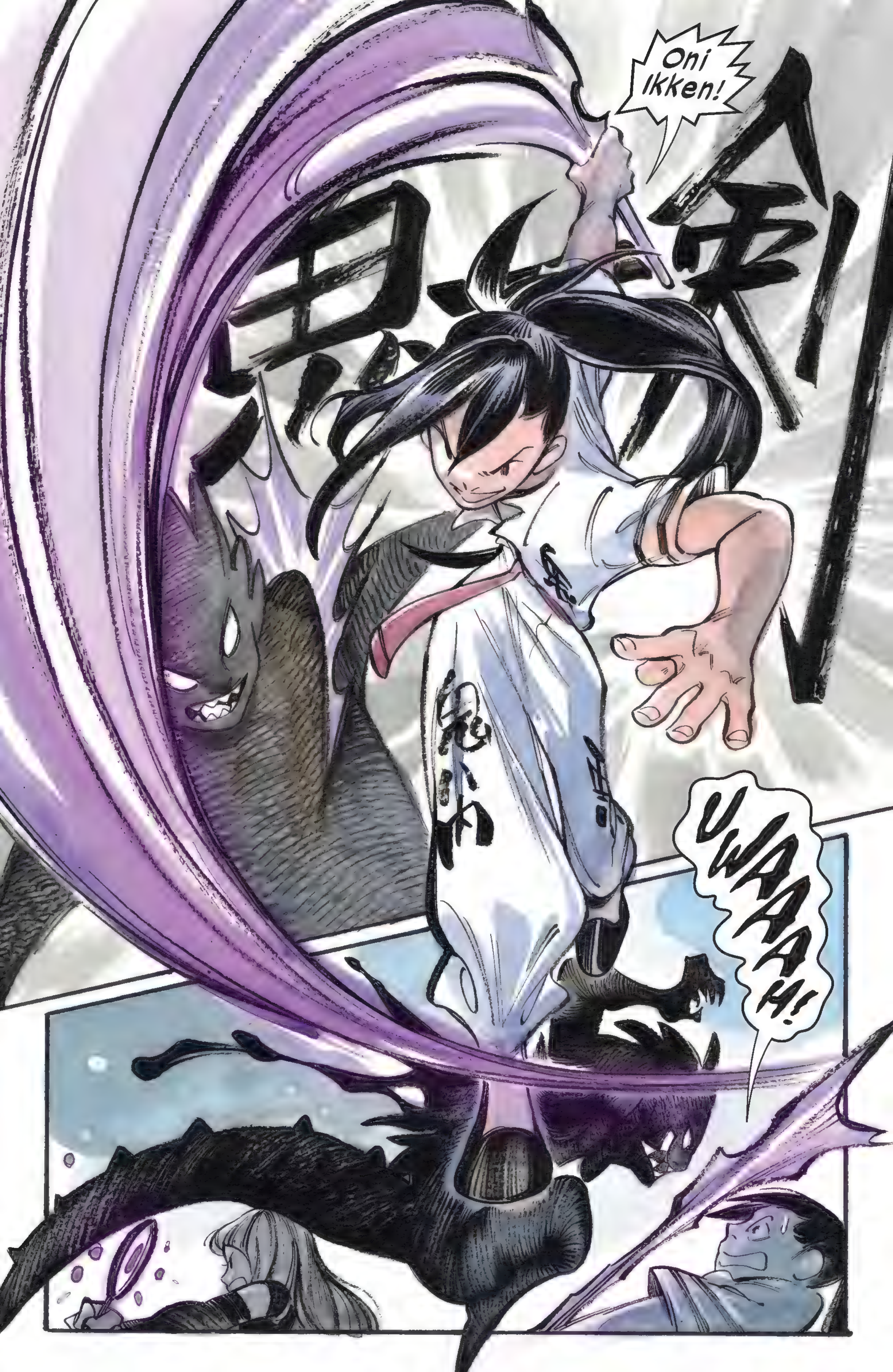
News alert:
Hi No Kuni's Sun Emperor meeting with...

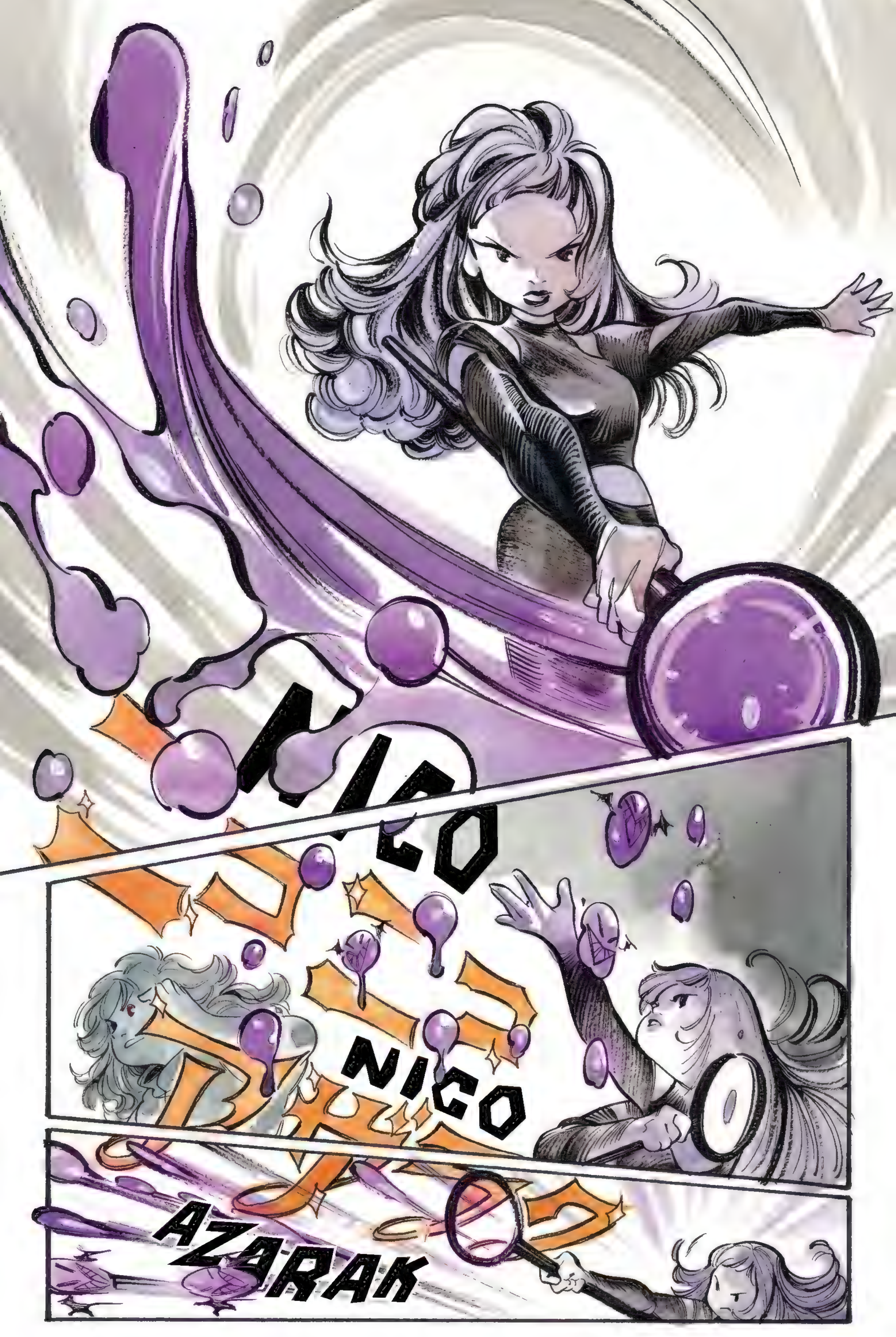

魂

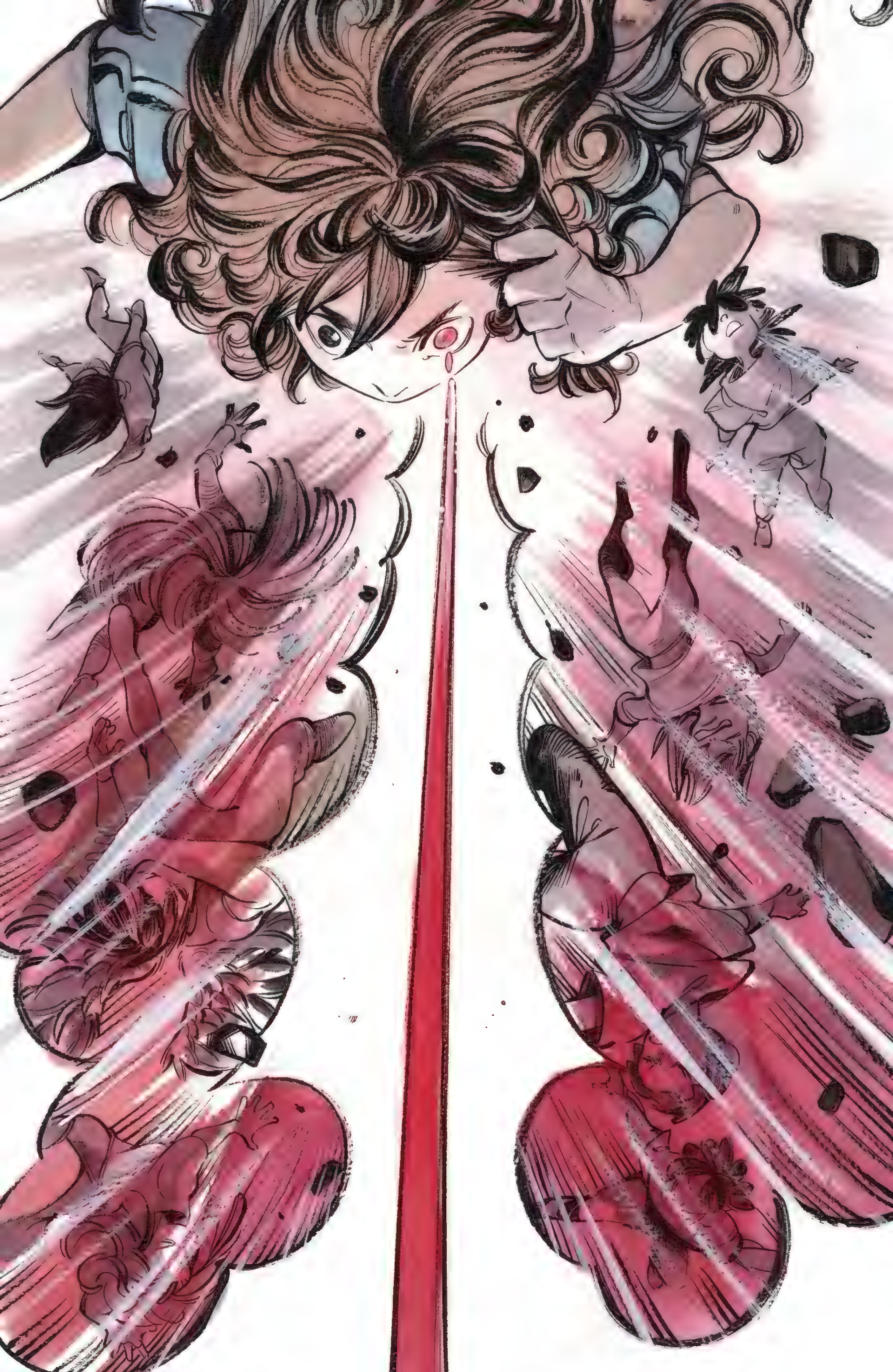

Reporting live from the scene...
The two mutant groups appear to be in a standoff--
KZZTTZZZTTT
Suzuki? Hello?
Enough.
ZZZZZTTT

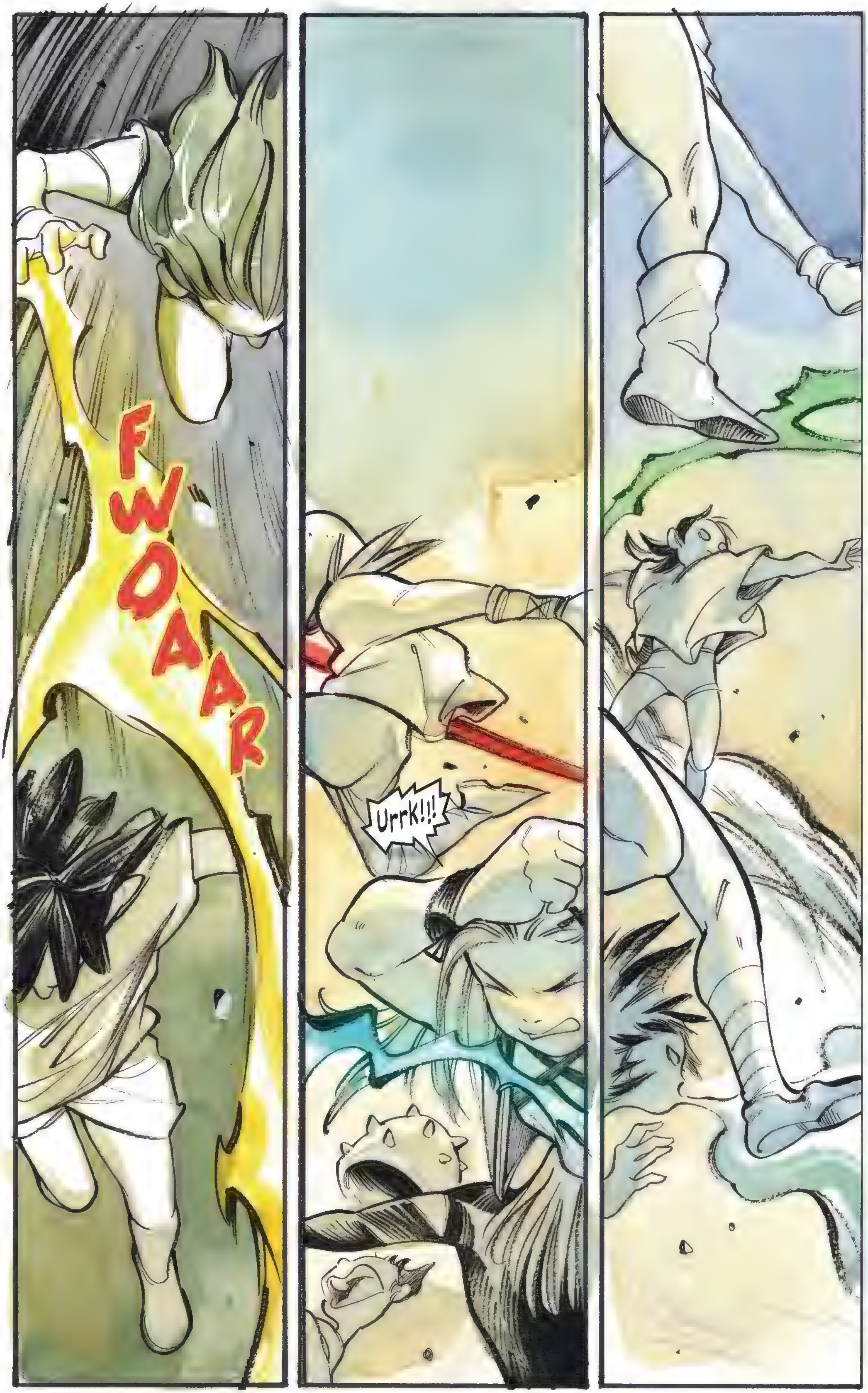

Surge!!! Wake up! You're being controlled!
We don't have to do this!
You think you know me, "Maystorm"? I'm finally thinking clearly.
Anyone who stands in the way of the Children of the Atom is an enemy!
Their names shall not be recorded in the Testament of X!!!
X-Men! Get ready!!!

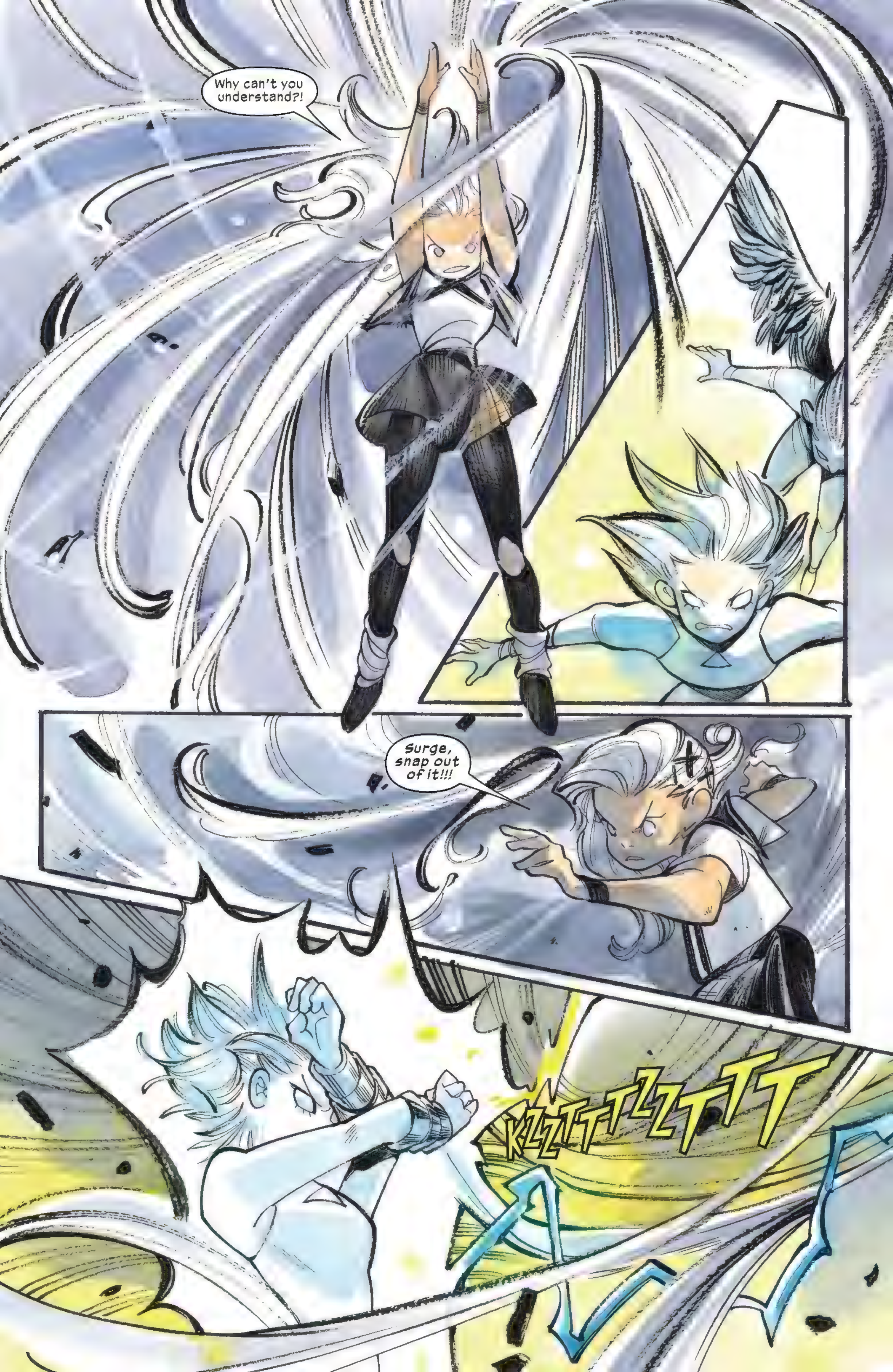

Let's gooo!!!

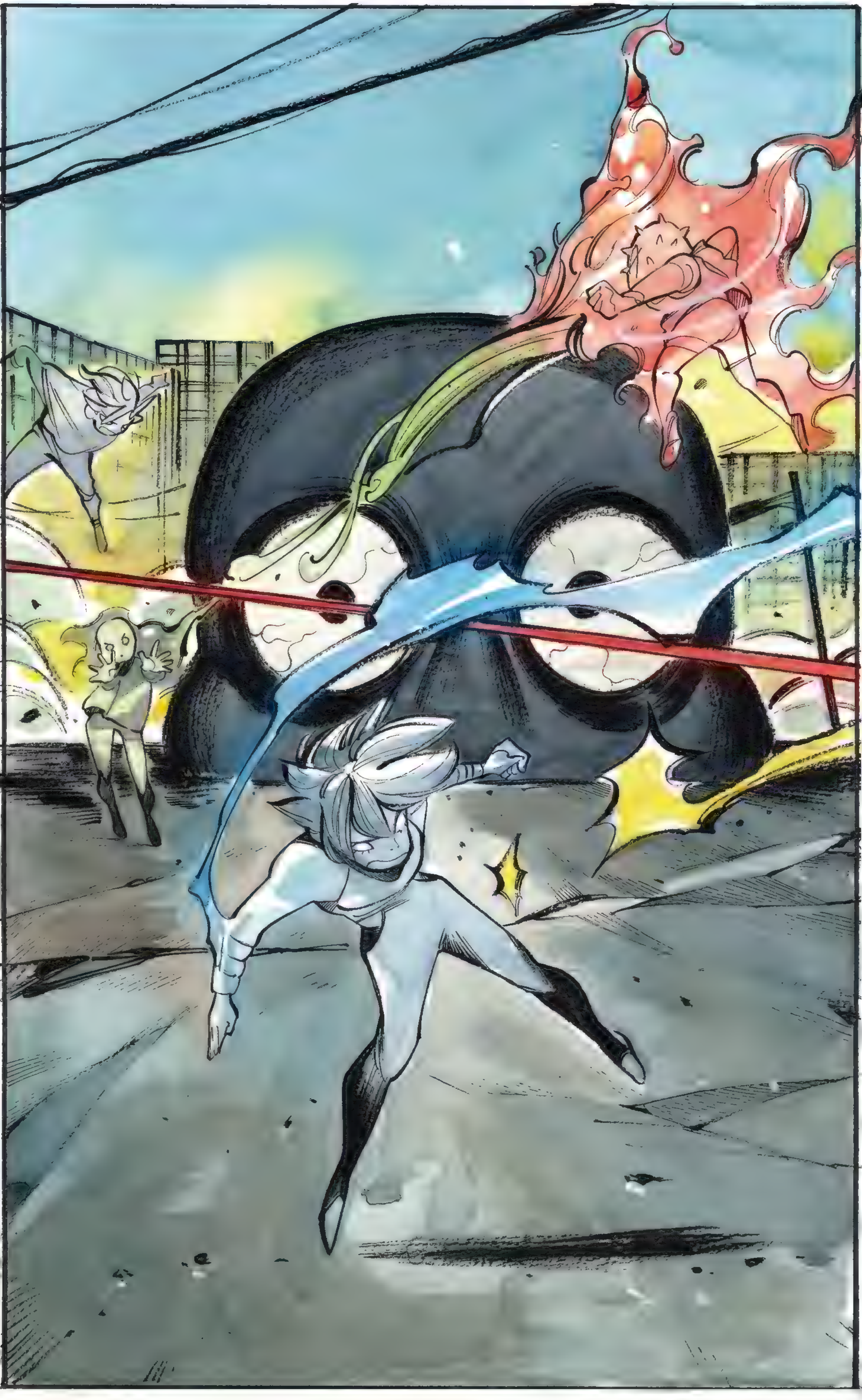

Oni Ikken!
鬼一剣
UWAAAH!

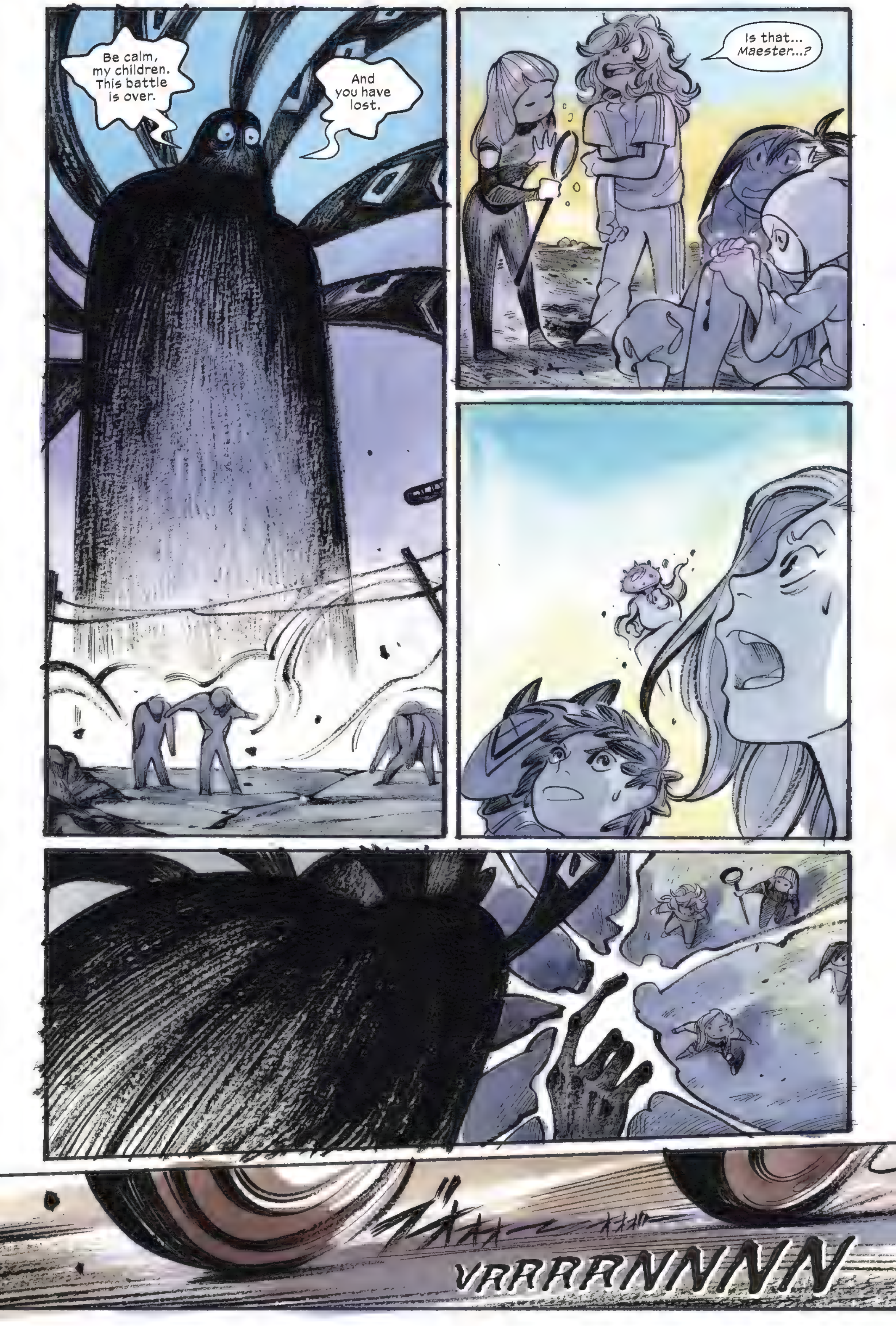

NICO
NICO
AZARAK

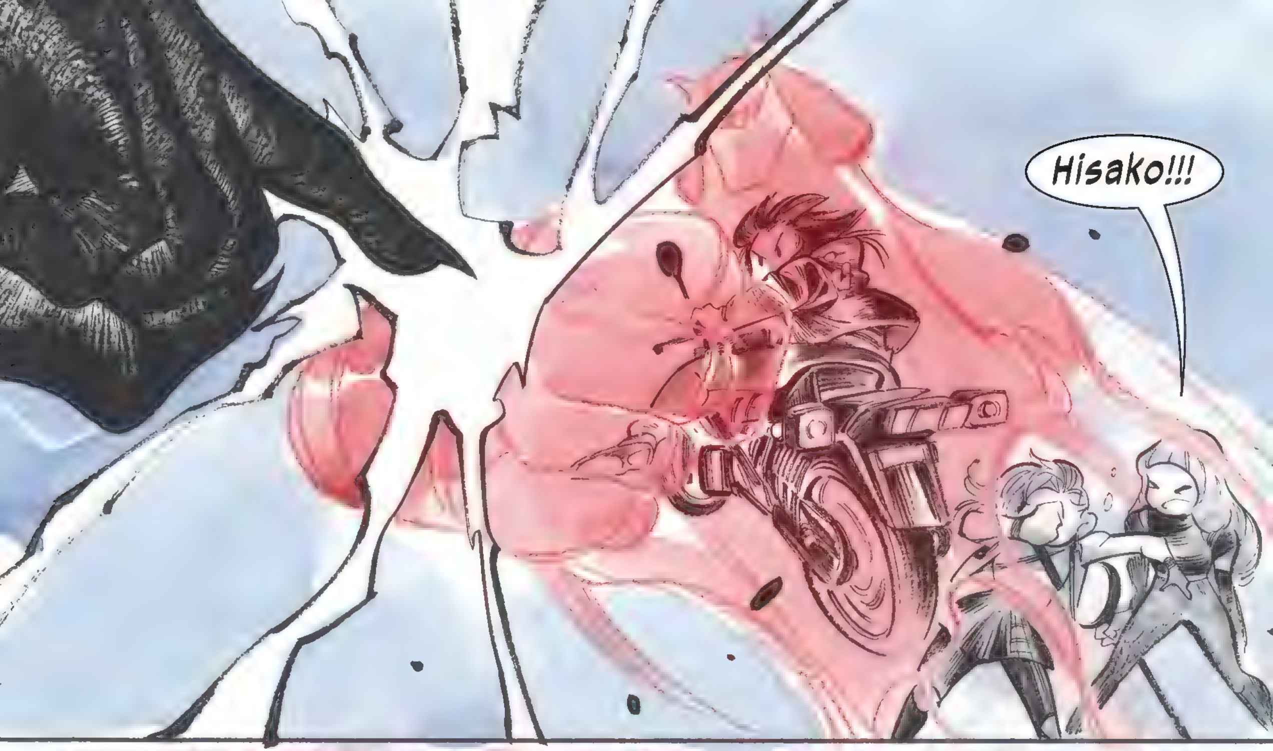


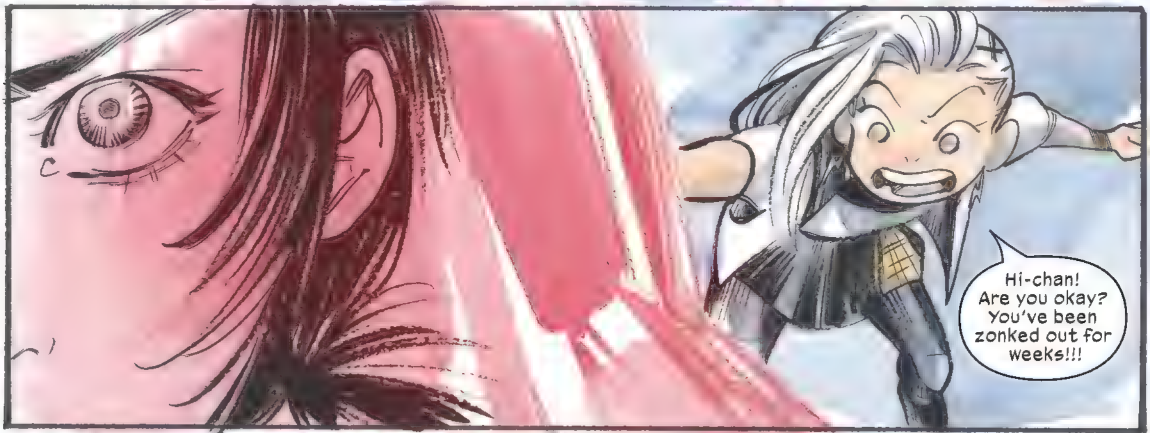

FWOAAR
Urrk!!!

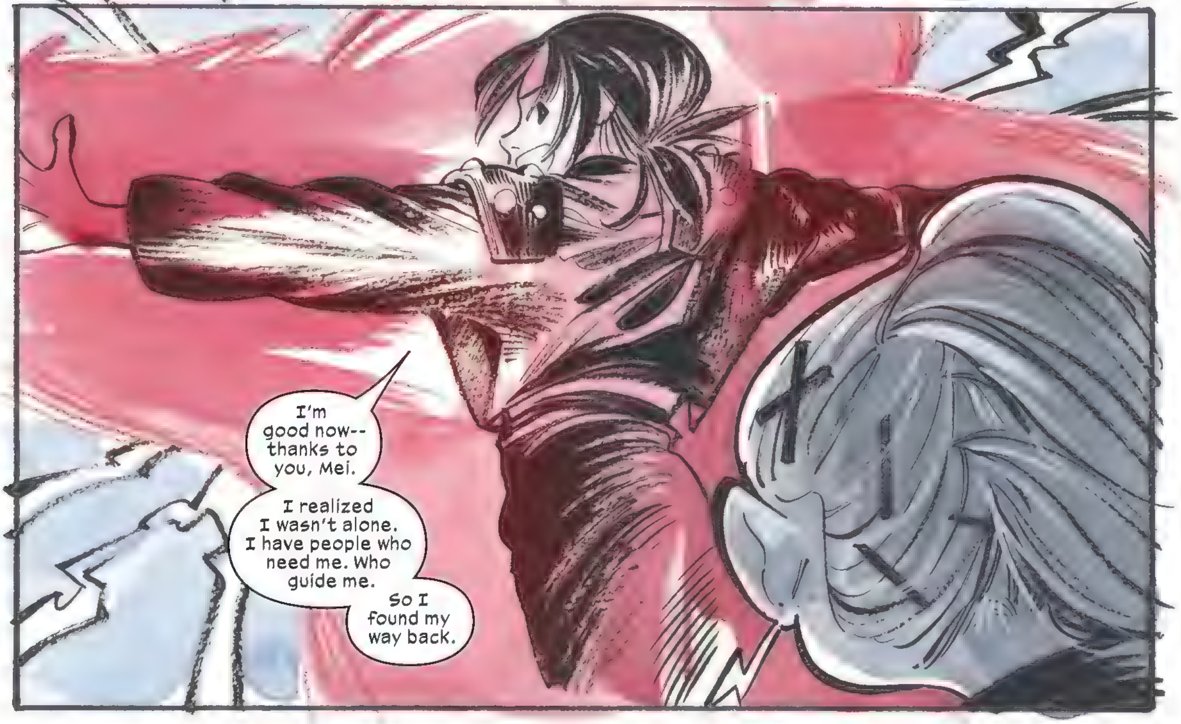

Why can't you understand?!
Surge, snap out of it!!!
KZZTTTZZTTTT

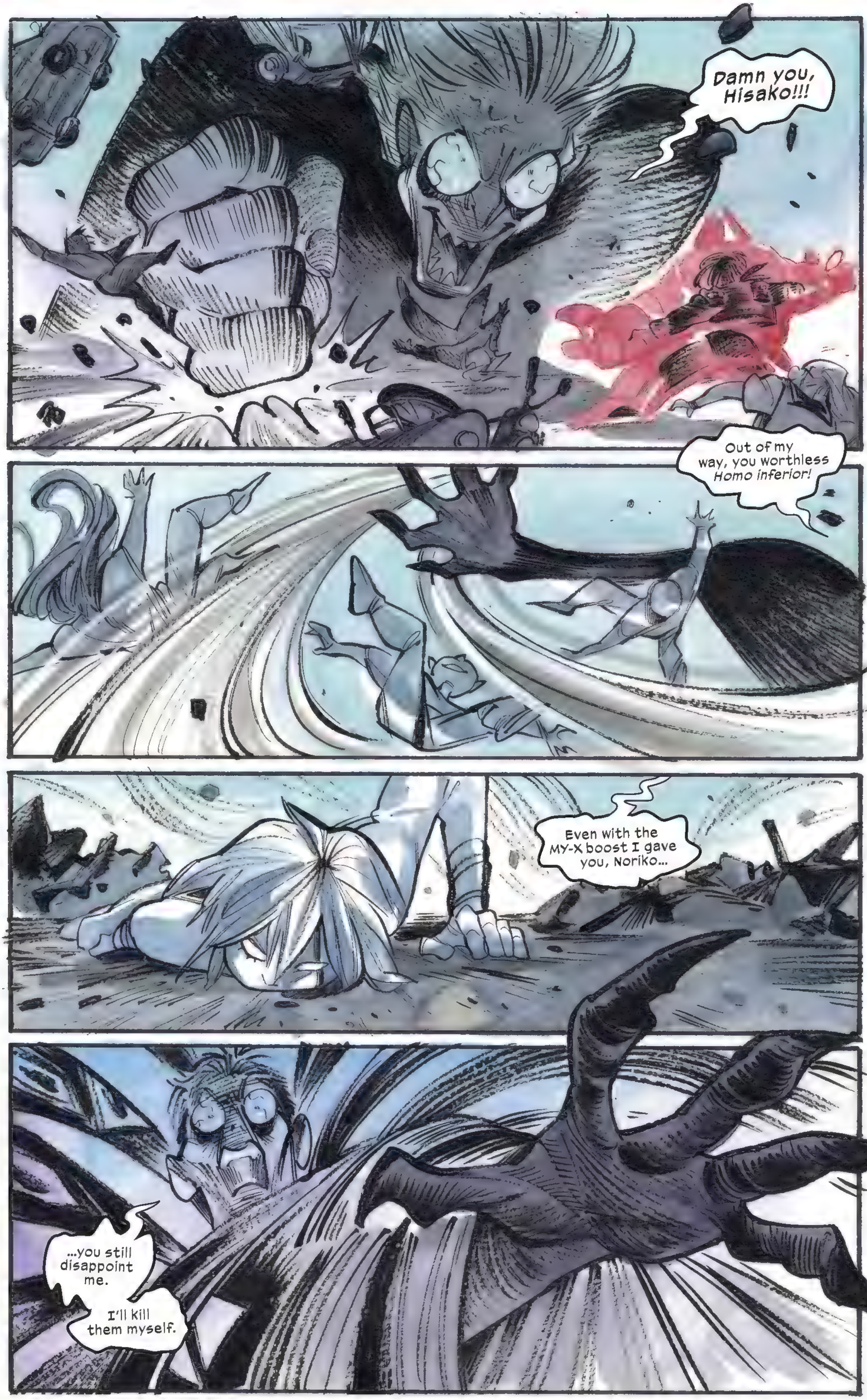


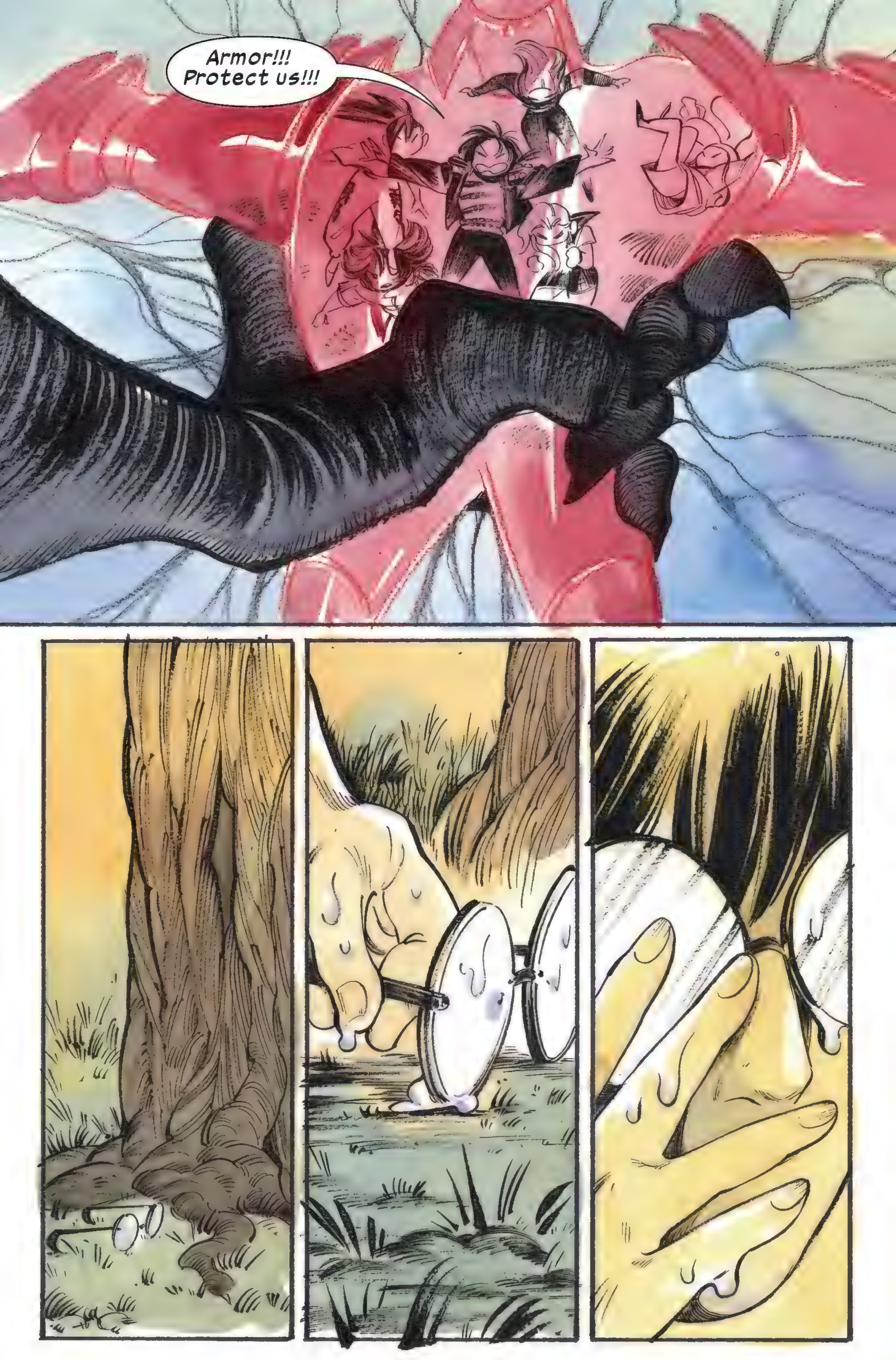

Be calm, my children. This battle is over.
And you have lost.
Is that... Maester...?
ヴオオオーーオオオ
VRRRRNNNNN

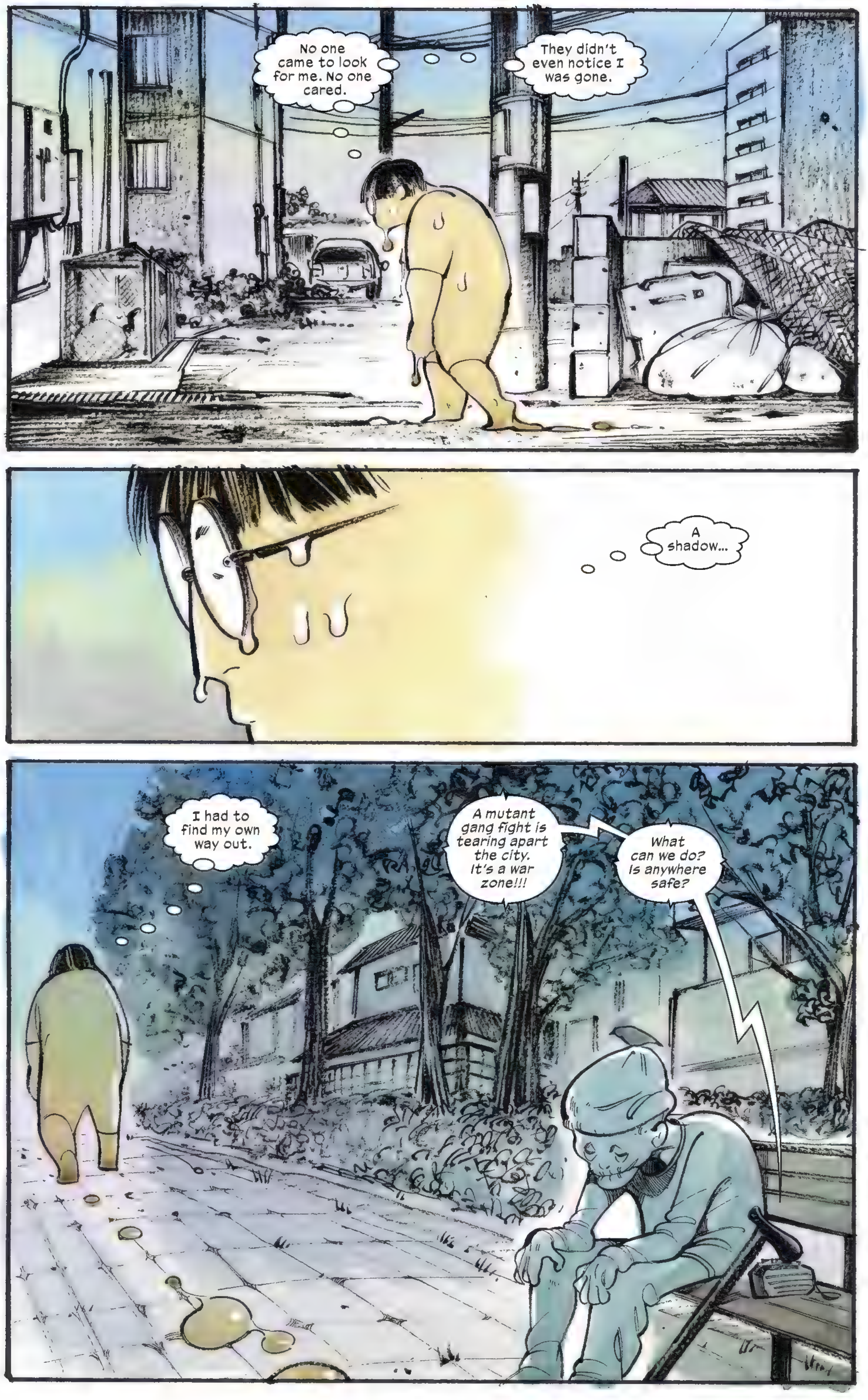

Hisako!!!

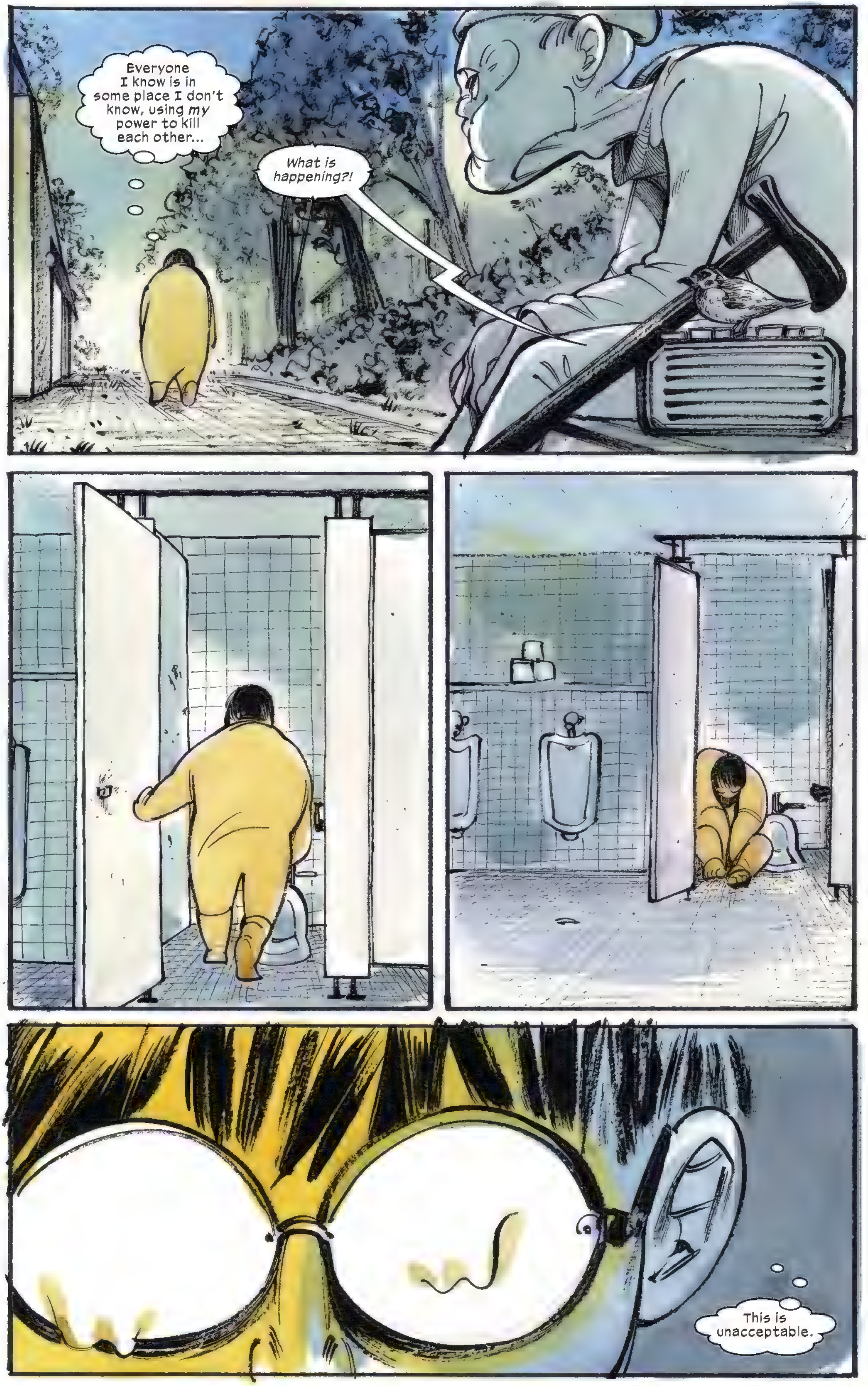

Hi-chan! Are you okay? You've been zonked out for weeks!!!

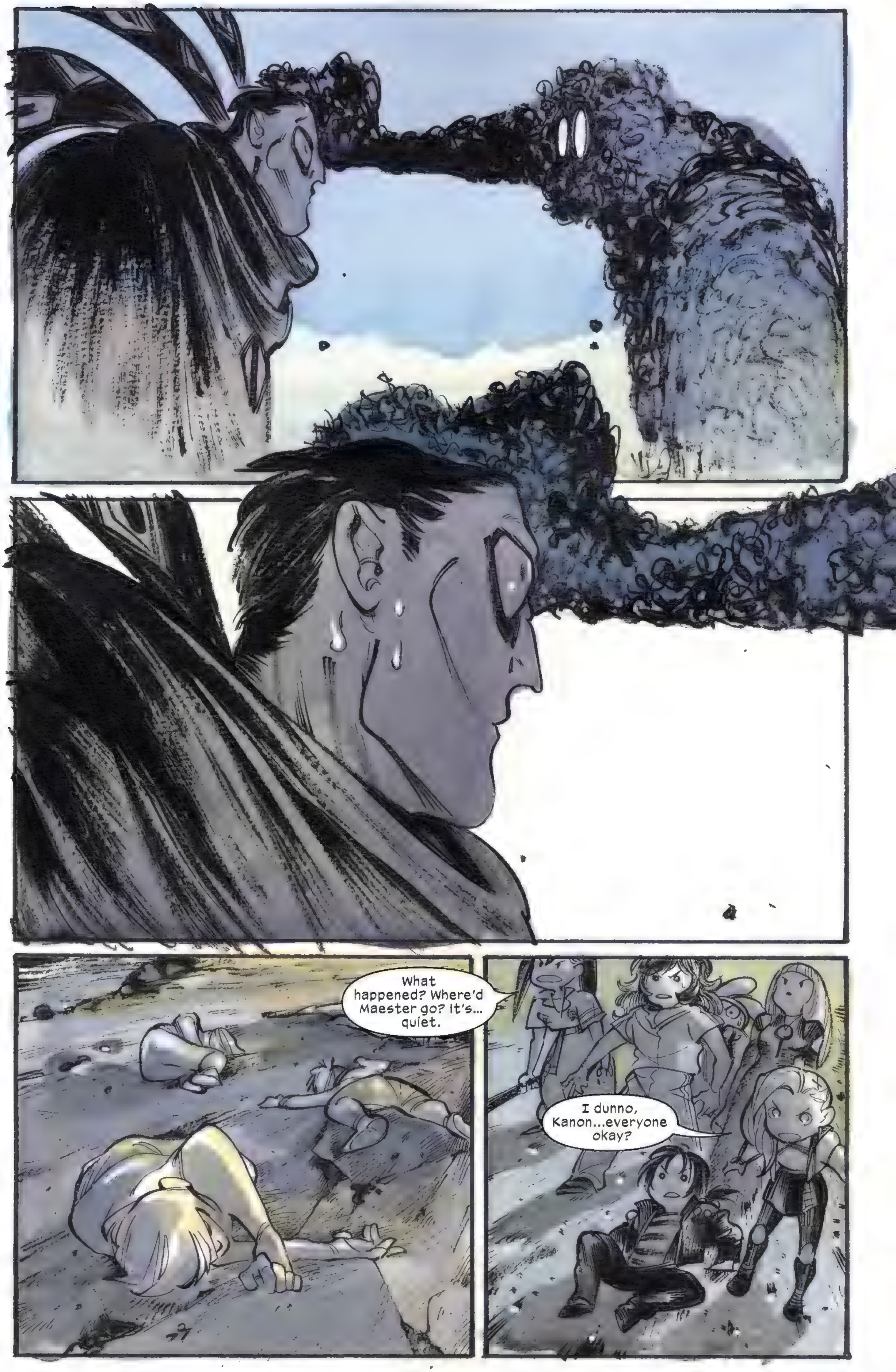

I'm good now--thanks to you, Mei.
I realized I wasn't alone. I have people who need me. Who guide me.
So I found my way back.

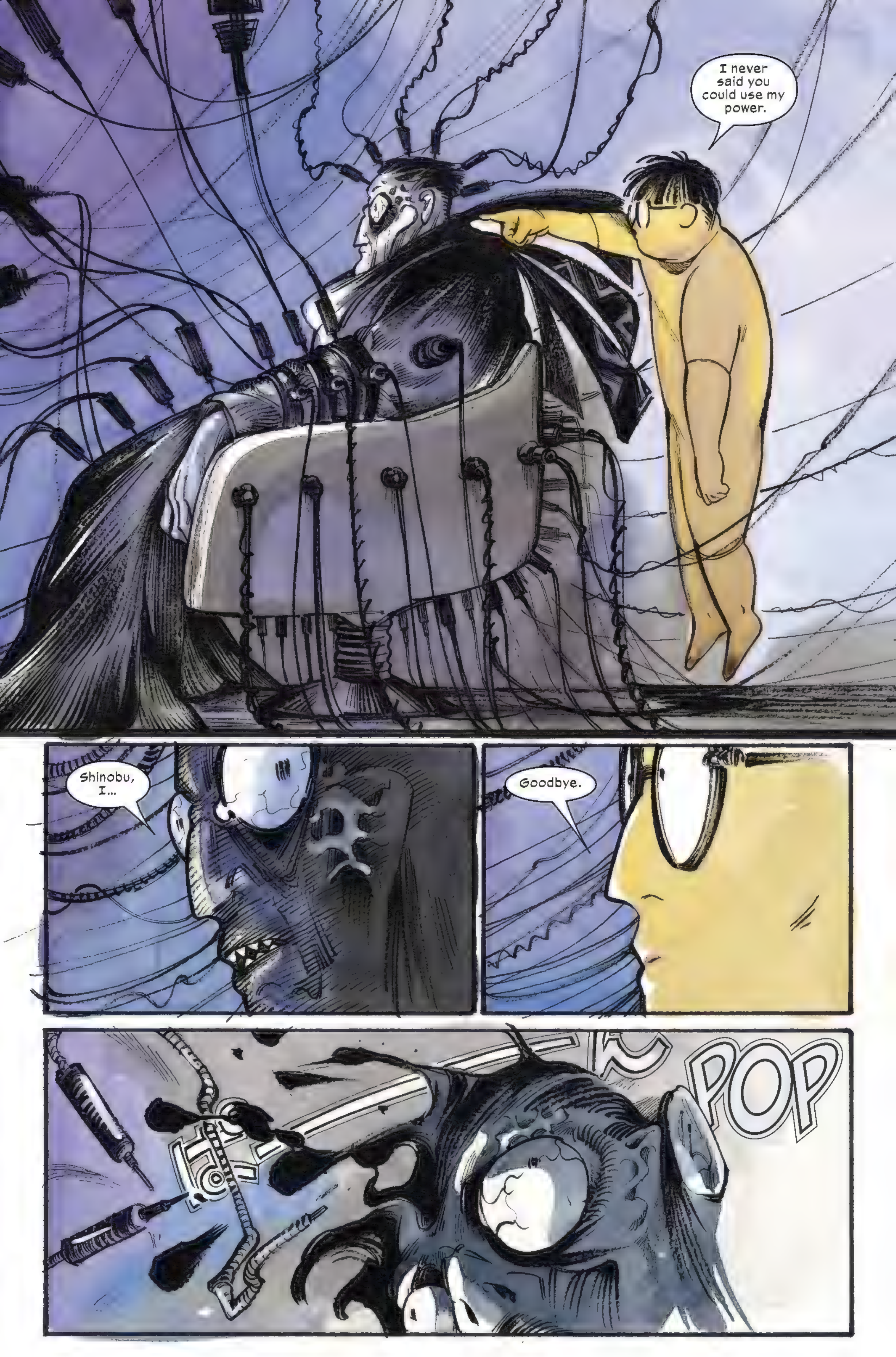

Damn you, Hisako!!!
Out of my way, you worthless *Homo inferior*!
Even with the MY-X boost I gave you, Noriko...
...you still disappoint me.
I'll kill them myself.

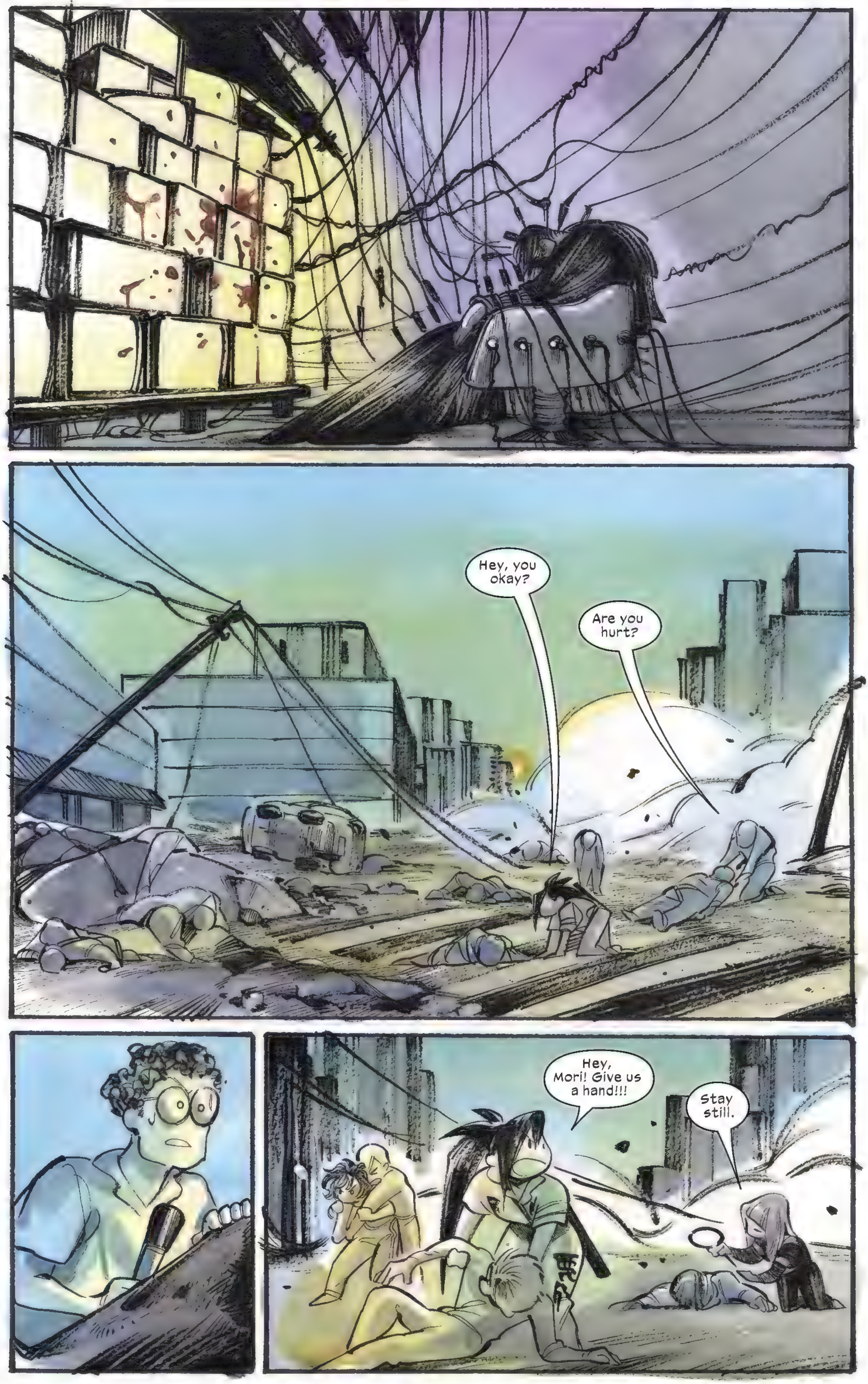

Armor!!!
Protect us!!!

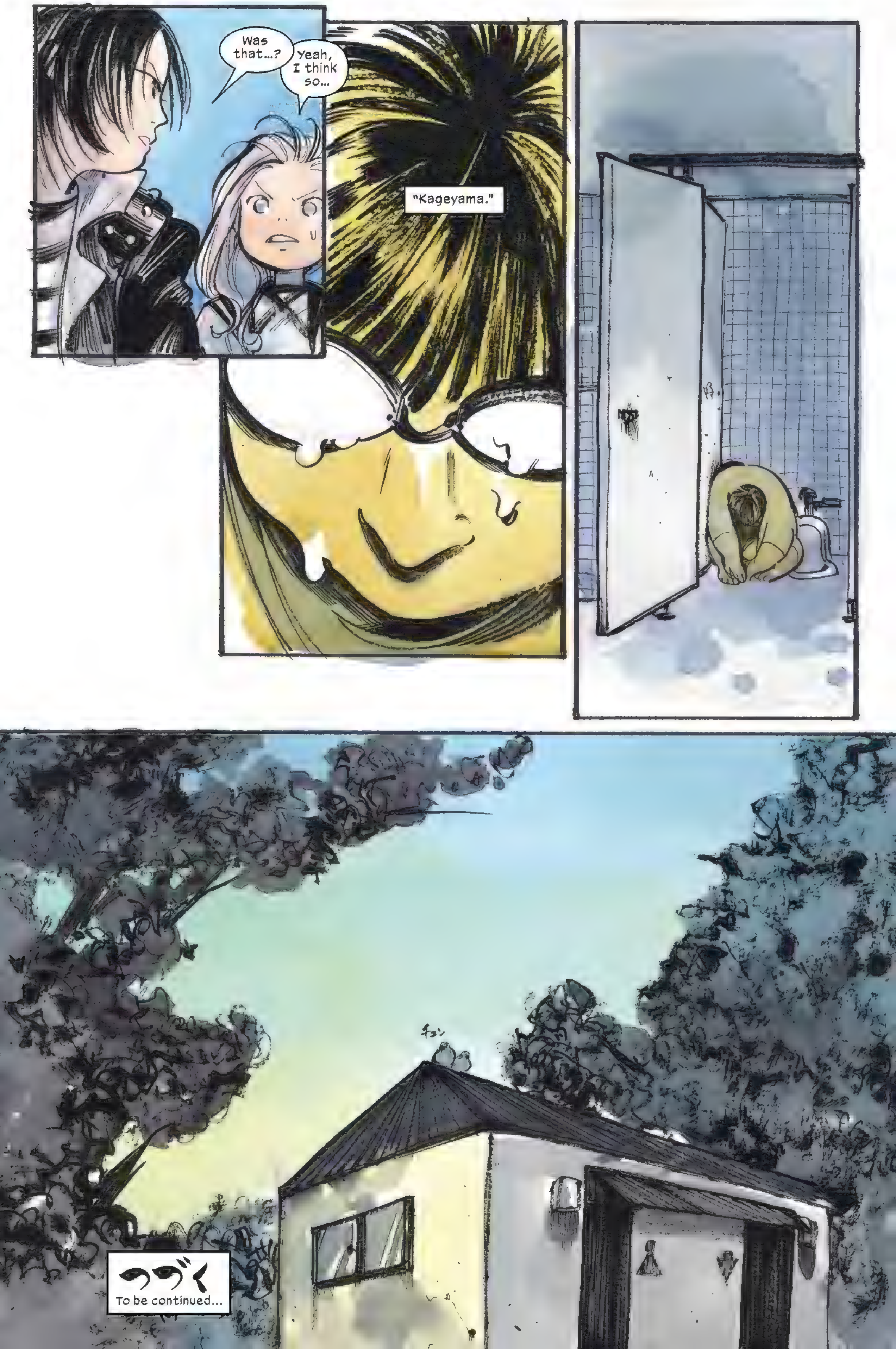

No one came to look for me. No one cared.
They didn't even notice I was gone.
A shadow...
I had to find my own way out.
A mutant gang fight is tearing apart the city. It's a war zone!!!
What can we do? Is anywhere safe?


Everyone I know is in some place I don't know, using *my* power to kill each other...
What is happening?!
This is unacceptable.


What happened? Where'd Maester go? It's... quiet.
I dunno, Kanon...everyone okay?


I never said you could use my power.
Shinobu, I...
Goodbye.
POP

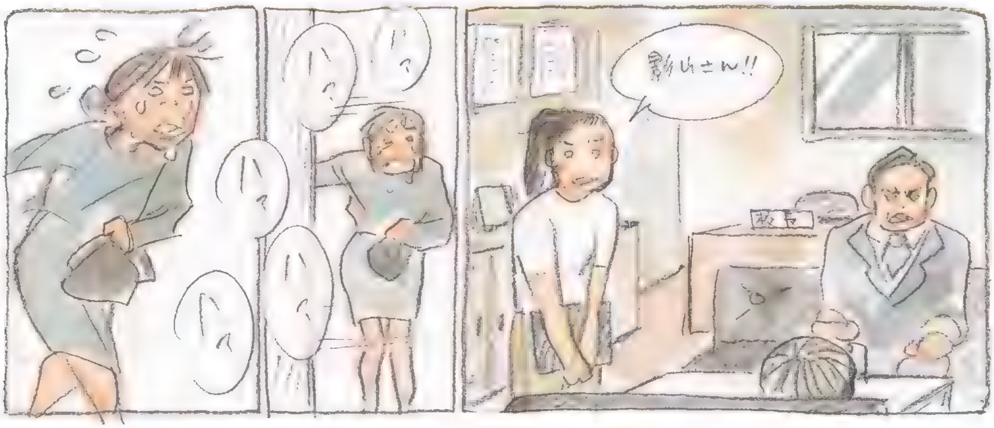

Hey, you okay?
Are you hurt?
Hey, Mori! Give us a hand!!!
Stay still.


Was that...?
Yeah, I think so...
"Kageyama."
チュン
つづく
To be continued...

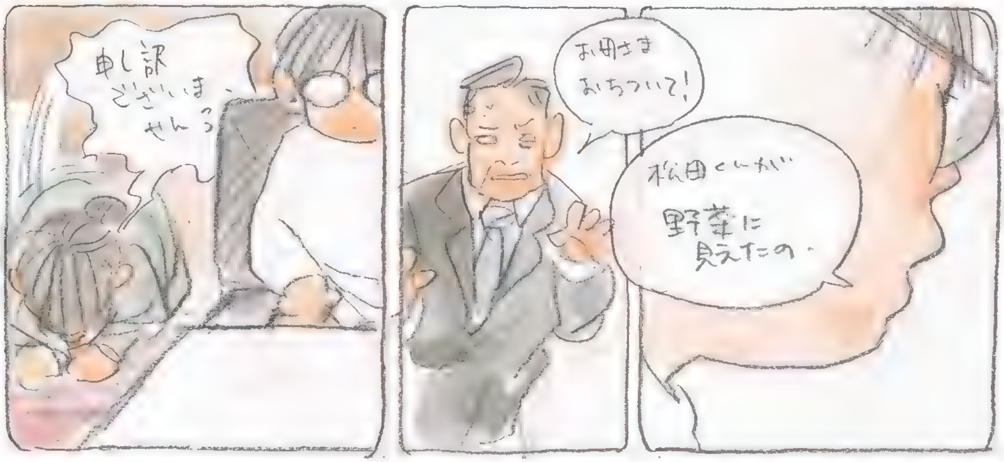
LEXICON

小学校1年生　影山しのぶ　ケース.1

SHINOBU KAGEYAMA – 1ST GRADE – CASE #1


影山さん!!
校長
ハァ
ハァ
ハァ
ハァ
ハァ

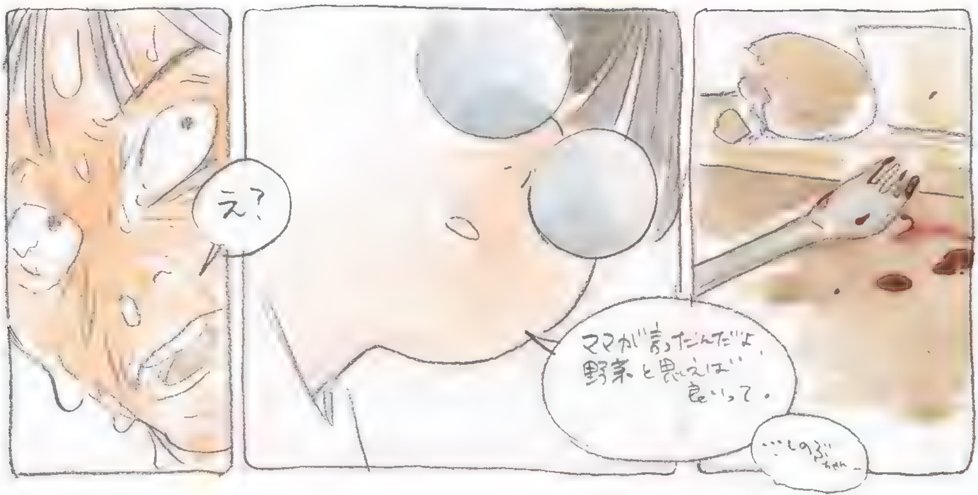
TEACHER: Mrs. Kageyama!!


松田くんが野菜に見えたの。
お母さま おちついて!
申し訳ございません!

SHINOBU'S MOM: I'm so sorry for what my son has done!

PRINCIPAL: Now, now... Mrs. Kageyama, please...

SHINOBU: It's Matsuda's own fault. He's just a vegetable. A potato.


…しのぶちゃん…
ママが言ったんだよ。野菜と思えば良いって。
え?

PRINCIPAL: What?

SHINOBU: Mom, you told me that when I'm nervous, I should picture everyone as a potato...

KAGEYAMA'S MOM: ...Shinobu...

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LETTERER: **VC's TRAVIS LANHAM**

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X-MEN CREATED BY **STAN LEE** & **JACK KIRBY**

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MARVEL
ULTIMATE
X-MEN
20
PEACH MOMOKO

ON SALE IN **OCTOBER**

ON SALE THIS MONTH

MARVEL
ULTIMATE
SPIDER-MAN
21

ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN #21

BY **JONATHAN HICKMAN**
& **DAVID MESSINA**

MARVEL
ULTIMATE
BLACK PANTHER
20

ULTIMATE BLACK PANTHER #20

BY **BRYAN HILL** &
STEFANO CASELLI

MARVEL
THE
ULTIMATES

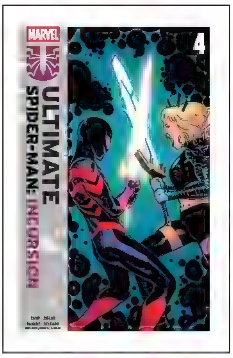
ULTIMATES #16

BY **DENIZ CAMP**
& **JUAN FRIGERI**

MARVEL
ULTIMATE
WOLVERINE
9

ULTIMATE WOLVERINE #9

BY **CHRIS CONDON** &
ALESSANDRO CAPPUCCIO


MARVEL
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4

ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN: INCURSION #4

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MARVEL
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16

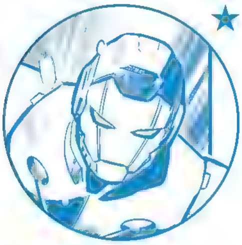
A diabolical genius known as **THE MAKER** used time travel to create his ideal Earth by systematically preventing anyone from ever becoming a super hero and by establishing a secret council of super villains, **THE MAKER'S COUNCIL**, that rules the world from the shadows.

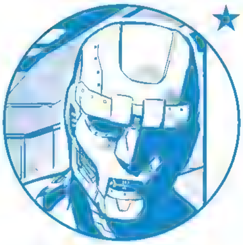
But now the Maker is gone, locked away for the next three months by inventor **HOWARD STARK**. Howard's teenage son, **TONY**, took on the codename **IRON LAD** and began recruiting a network of heroes to fight back against the Maker's Council and prepare for the Maker's return.

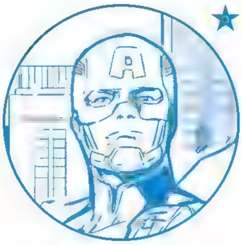
These heroes, calling themselves the **ULTIMATES**, have been operating covertly across the globe. But time is running out before the Maker returns, and they need all the help they can get if they're going to save the world. So they created an encrypted network called **ULTNET** to spread their word and their works to civilians everywhere...

THE ULTIMATES

CAST:

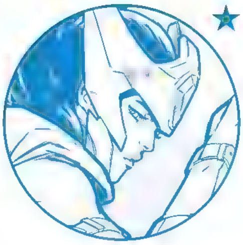

IRON LAD
TONY STARK


DOOM
REED RICHARDS


CAPTAIN AMERICA
STEVE ROGERS

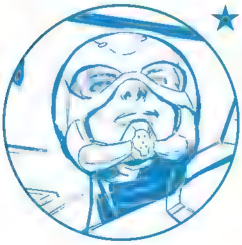
HAWKEYE
CHARLI RAMSEY

THOR
GOD OF THUNDER

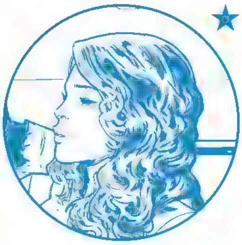

SIF
WARRIOR GODDESS

SHE-HULK
LEJORI JOENA ZAKARIA

LUKE CAGE
PRISON REVOLTER

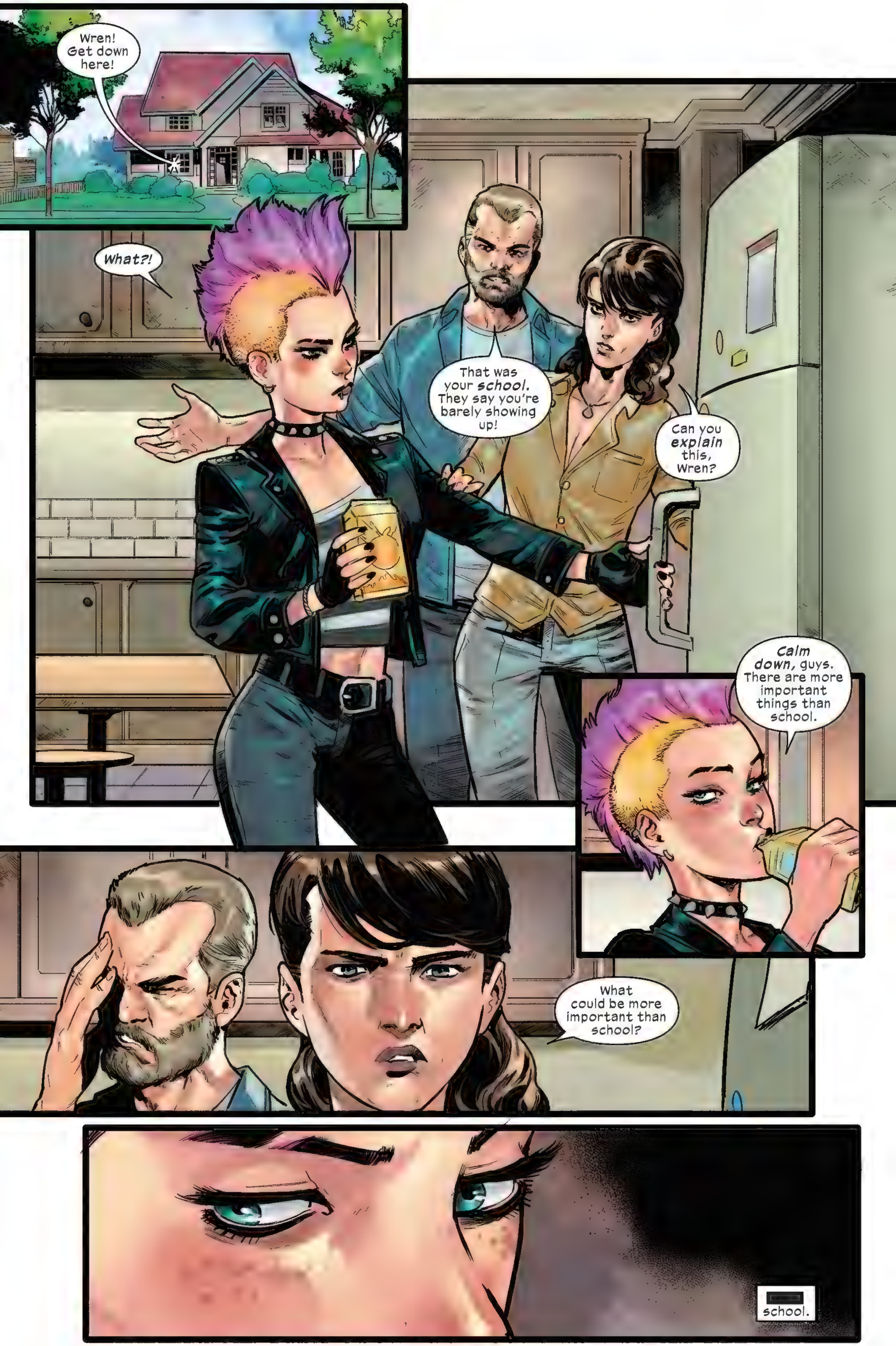

GIANT-MAN
HANK PYM

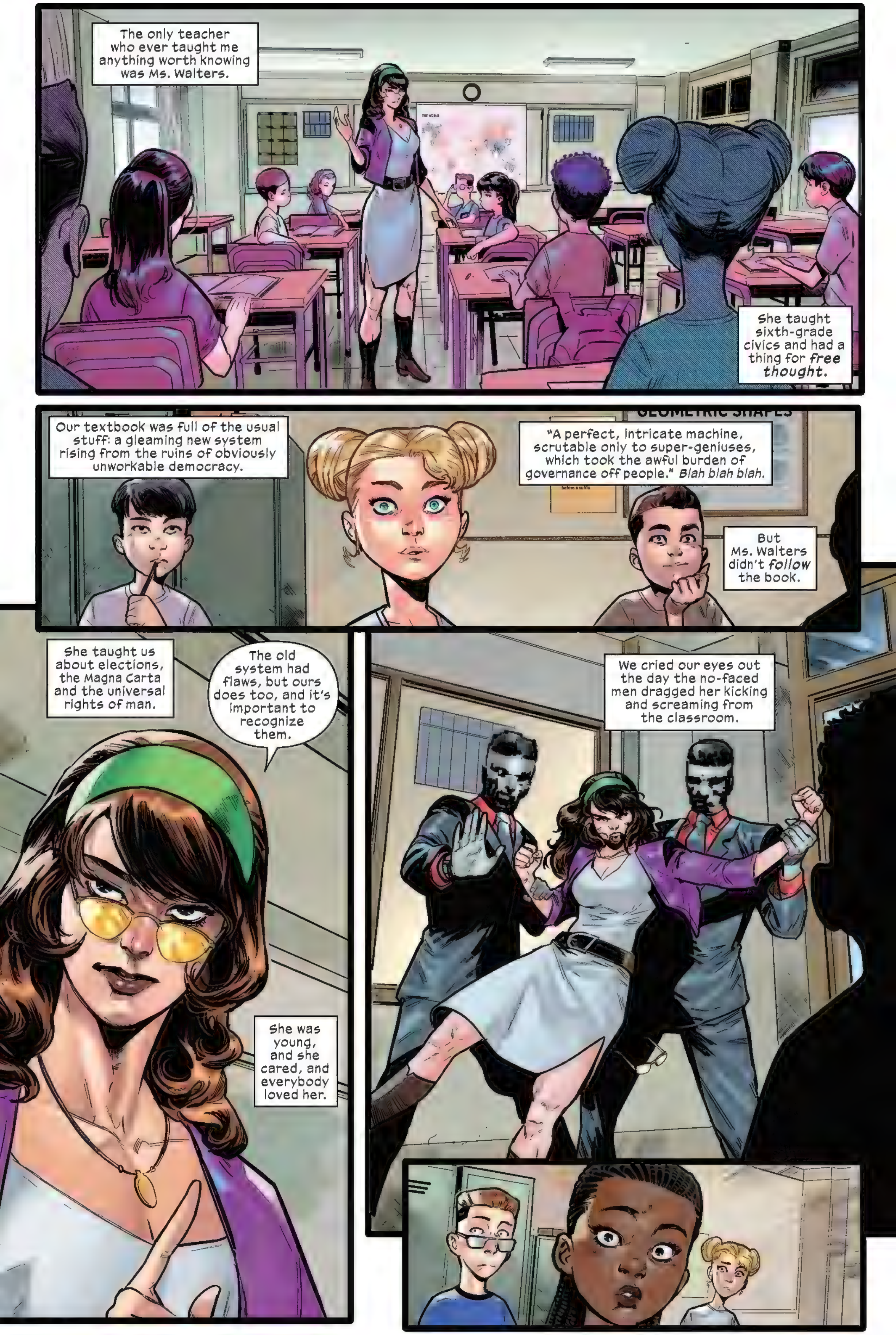
WASP
JANET VAN DYNE

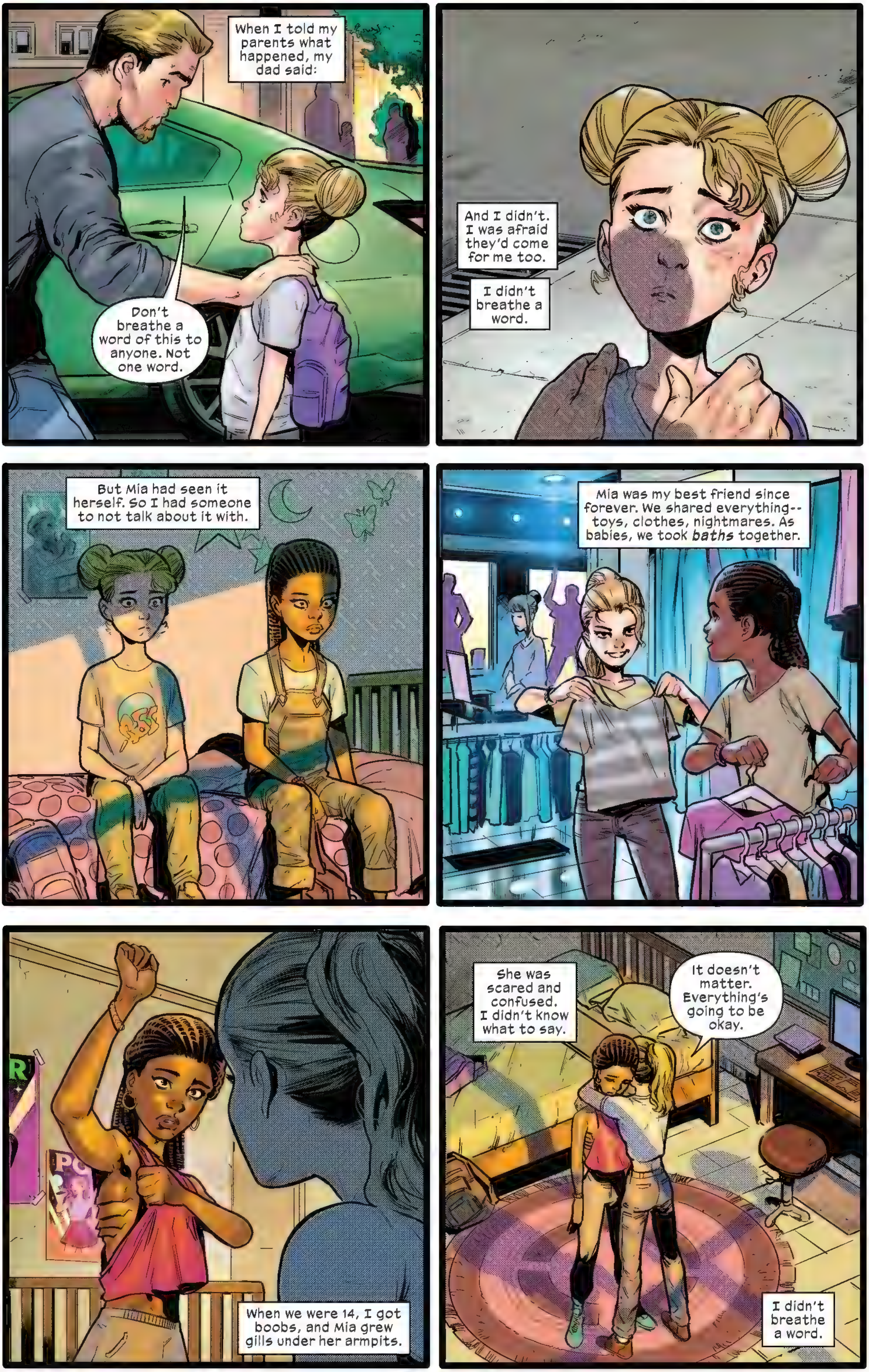

AMERICA CHAVEZ
COSMIC POWERHOUSE

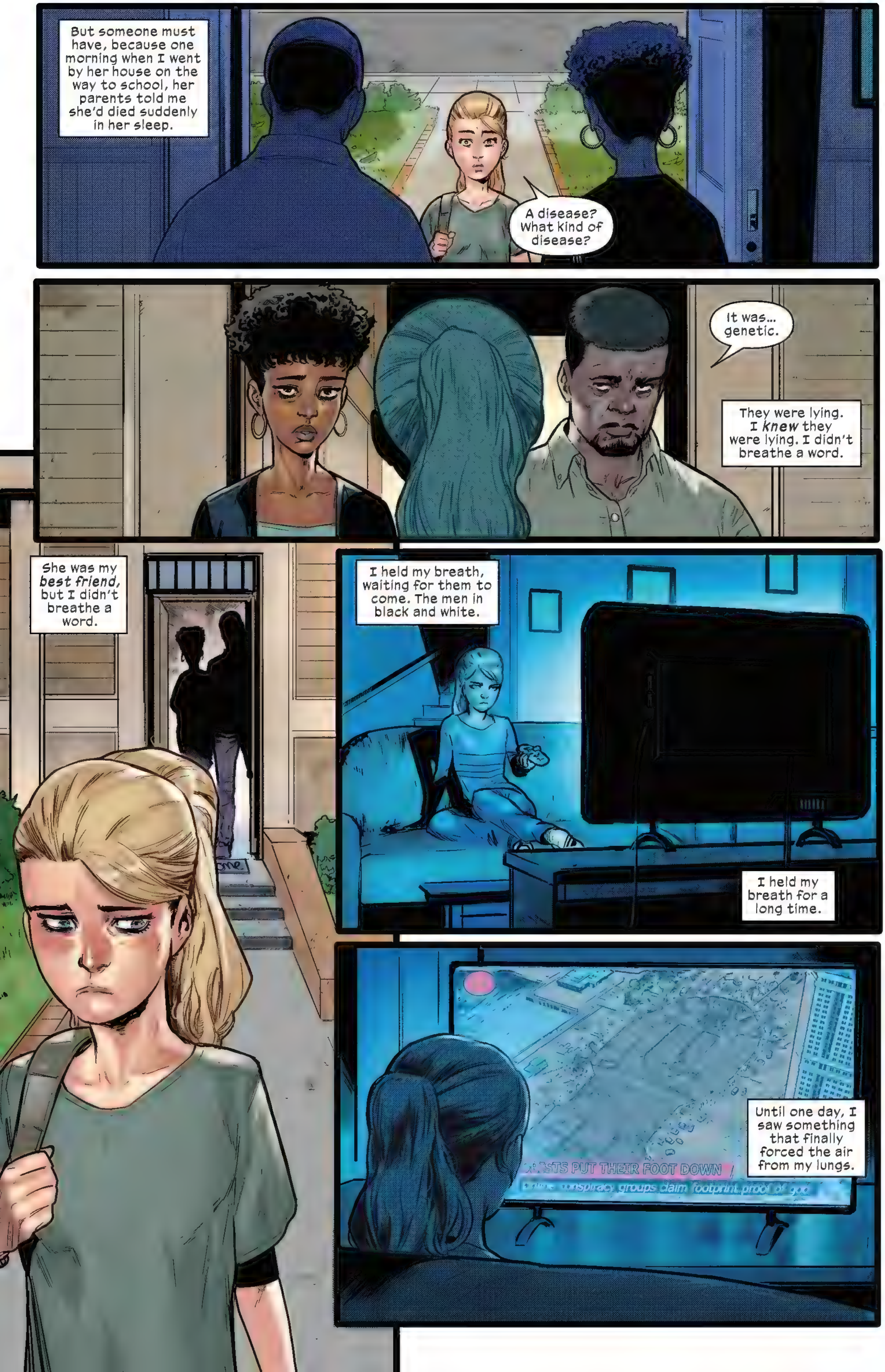
THE HUMAN TORCH
JIM HAMMOND

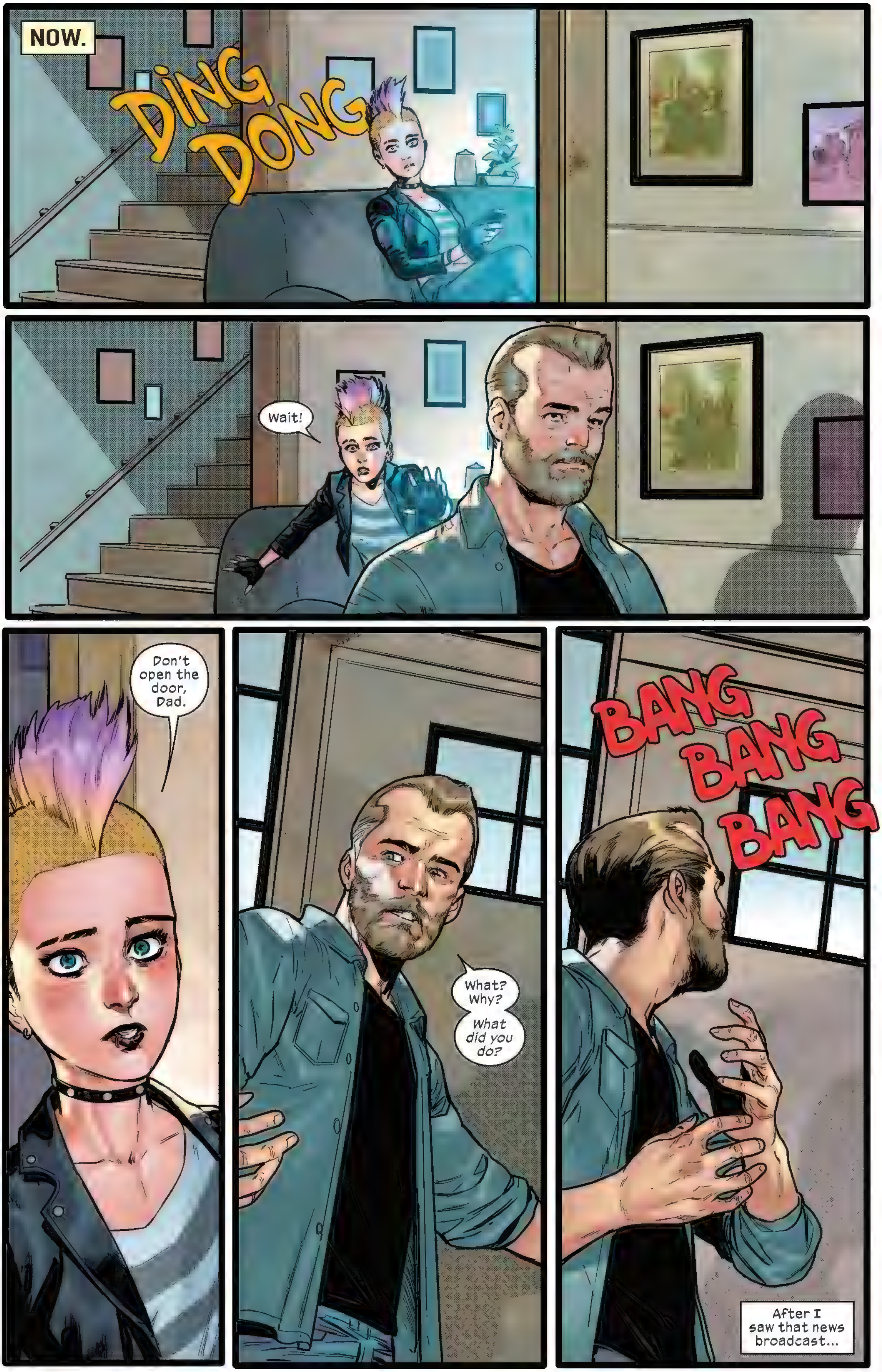
SEPTEMBER 2025

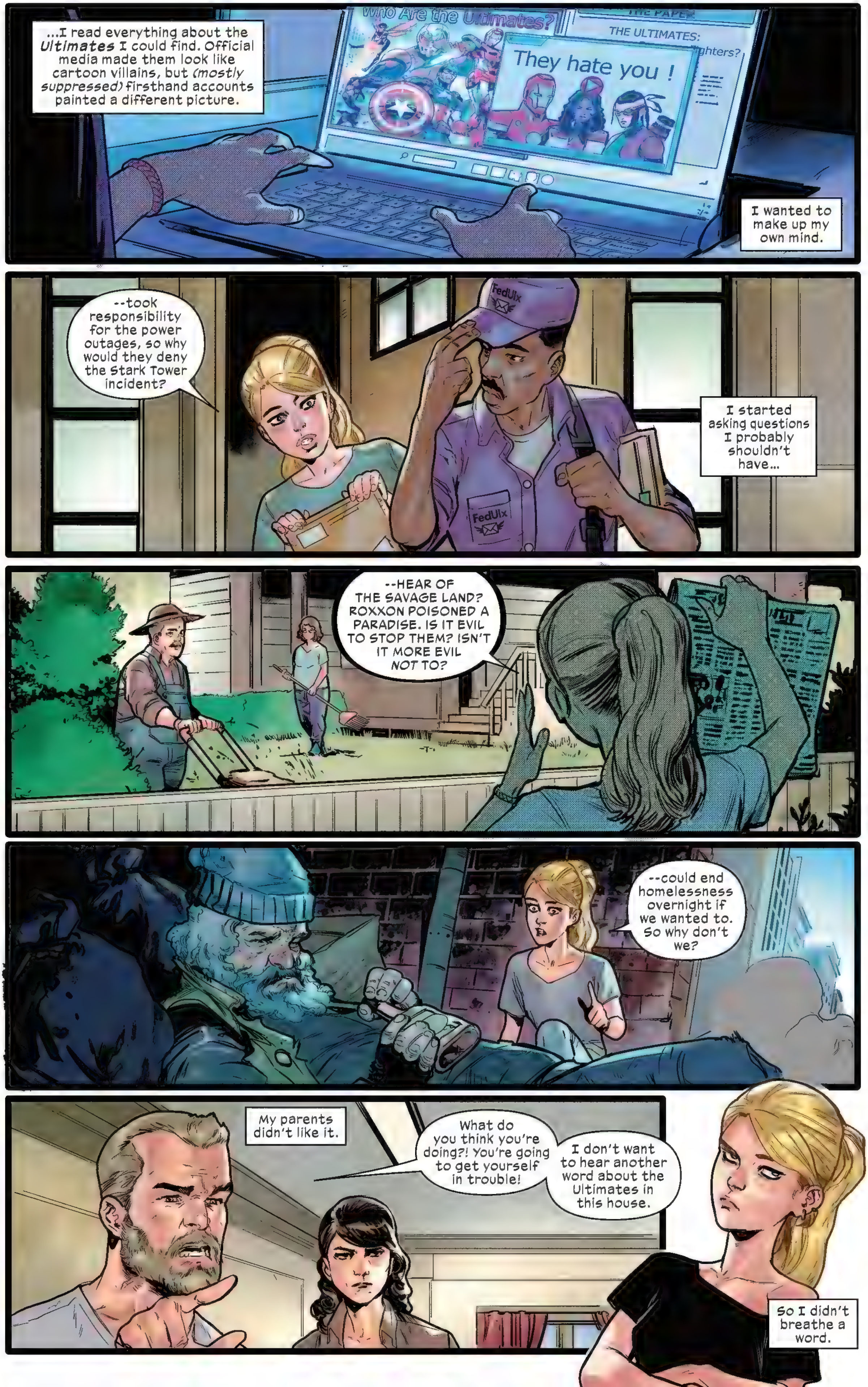

Wren! Get down here!
What?!
That was your *school.* They say you're barely showing up!
Can you *explain* this, Wren?
Calm down, guys. There are more important things than school.
What could be more important than school?
school.

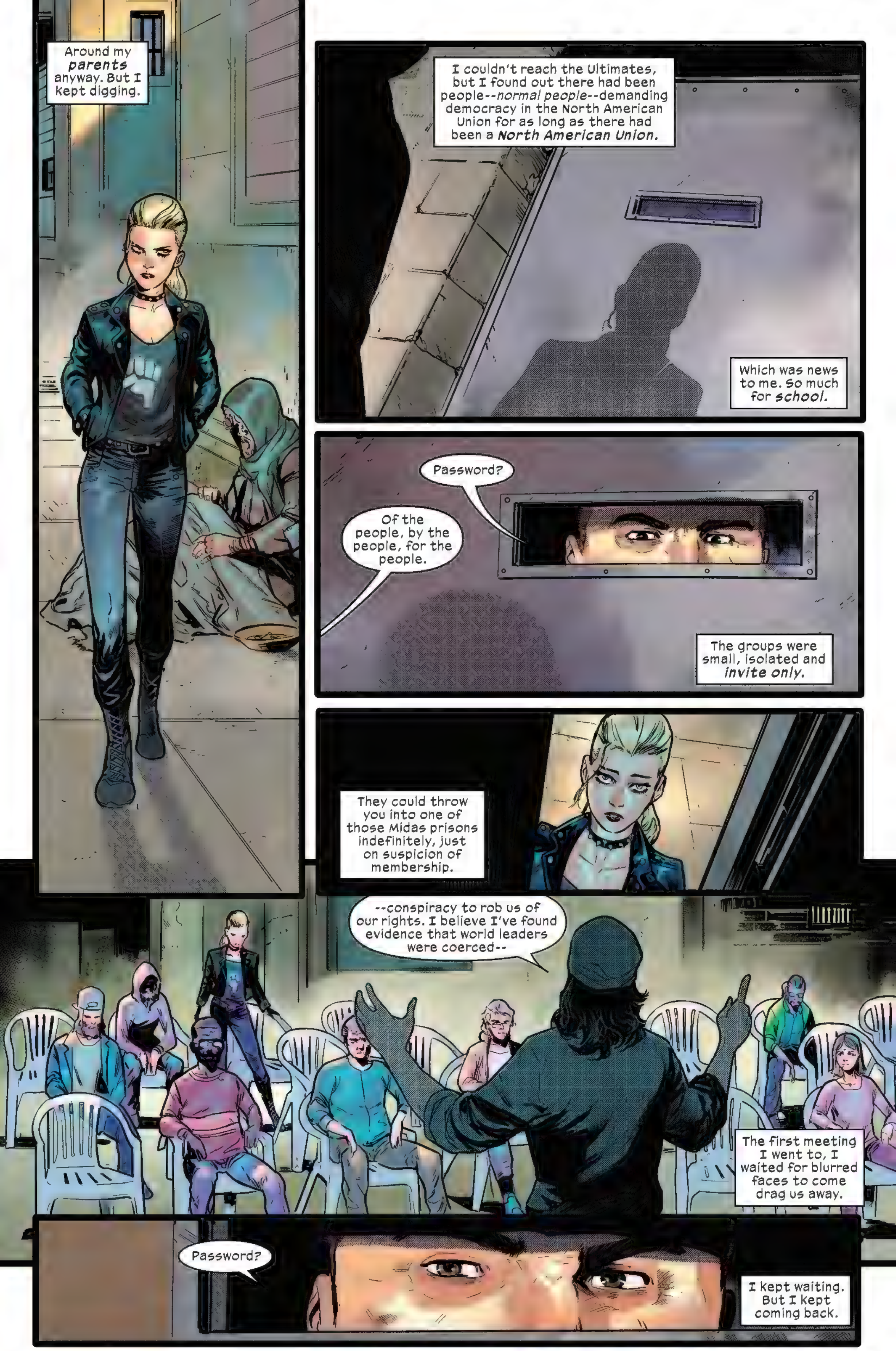

The only teacher who ever taught me anything worth knowing was Ms. Walters.
She taught sixth-grade civics and had a thing for *free thought.*
Our textbook was full of the usual stuff: a gleaming new system rising from the ruins of obviously unworkable democracy.
"A perfect, intricate machine, scrutable only to super-geniuses, which took the awful burden of governance off people." *Blah blah blah.*
But Ms. Walters didn't *follow* the book.
She taught us about elections, the Magna Carta and the universal rights of man.
The old system had flaws, but ours does too, and it's important to recognize them.
She was young, and she cared, and everybody loved her.
We cried our eyes out the day the no-faced men dragged her kicking and screaming from the classroom.

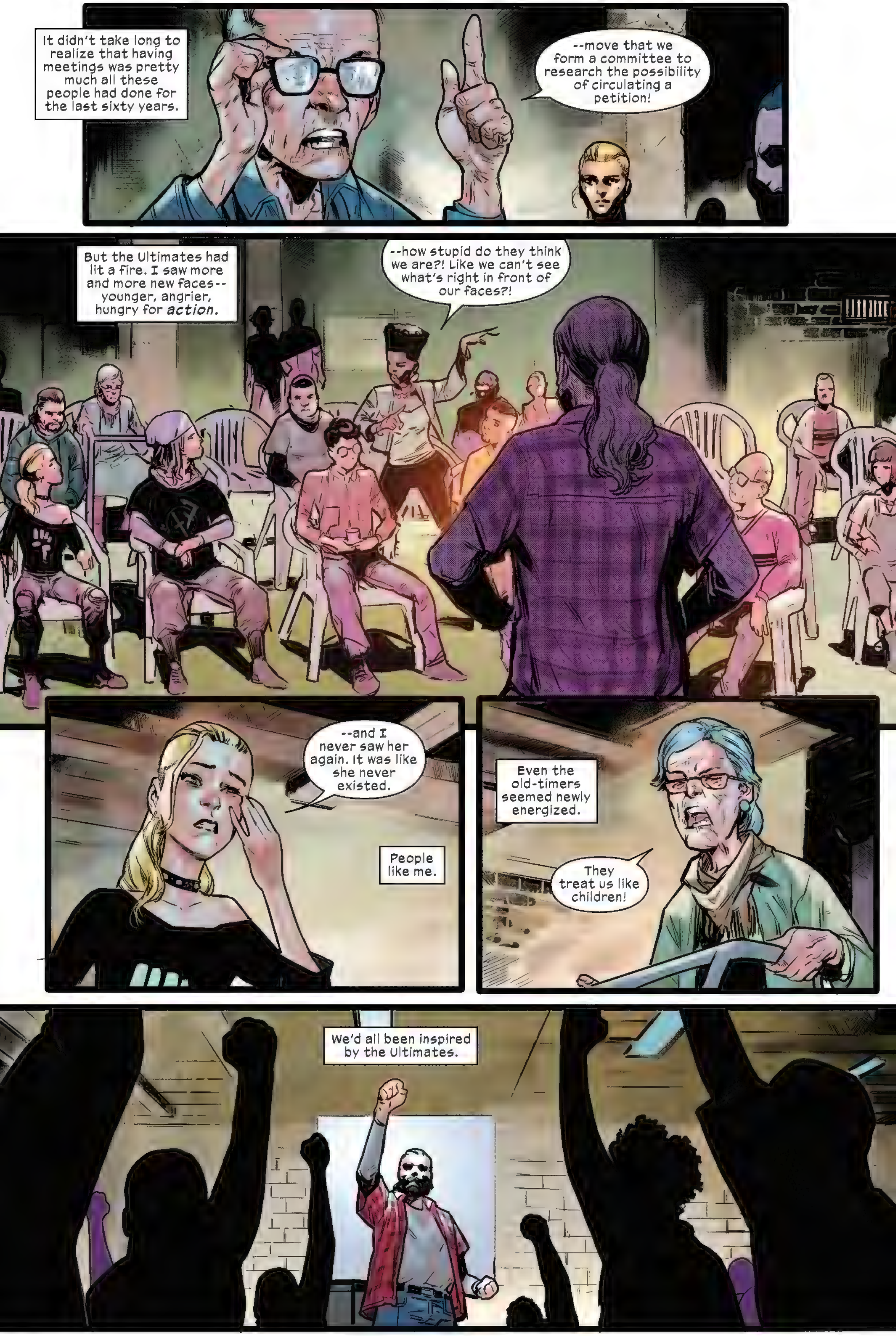

When I told my parents what happened, my dad said:
Don't breathe a word of this to anyone. Not one word.
And I didn't. I was afraid they'd come for me too.
I didn't breathe a word.
But Mia had seen it herself. So I had someone to not talk about it with.
Mia was my best friend since forever. We shared everything--toys, clothes, nightmares. As babies, we took *baths* together.
When we were 14, I got boobs, and Mia grew gills under her armpits.
She was scared and confused. I didn't know what to say.
It doesn't matter. Everything's going to be okay.
I didn't breathe a word.

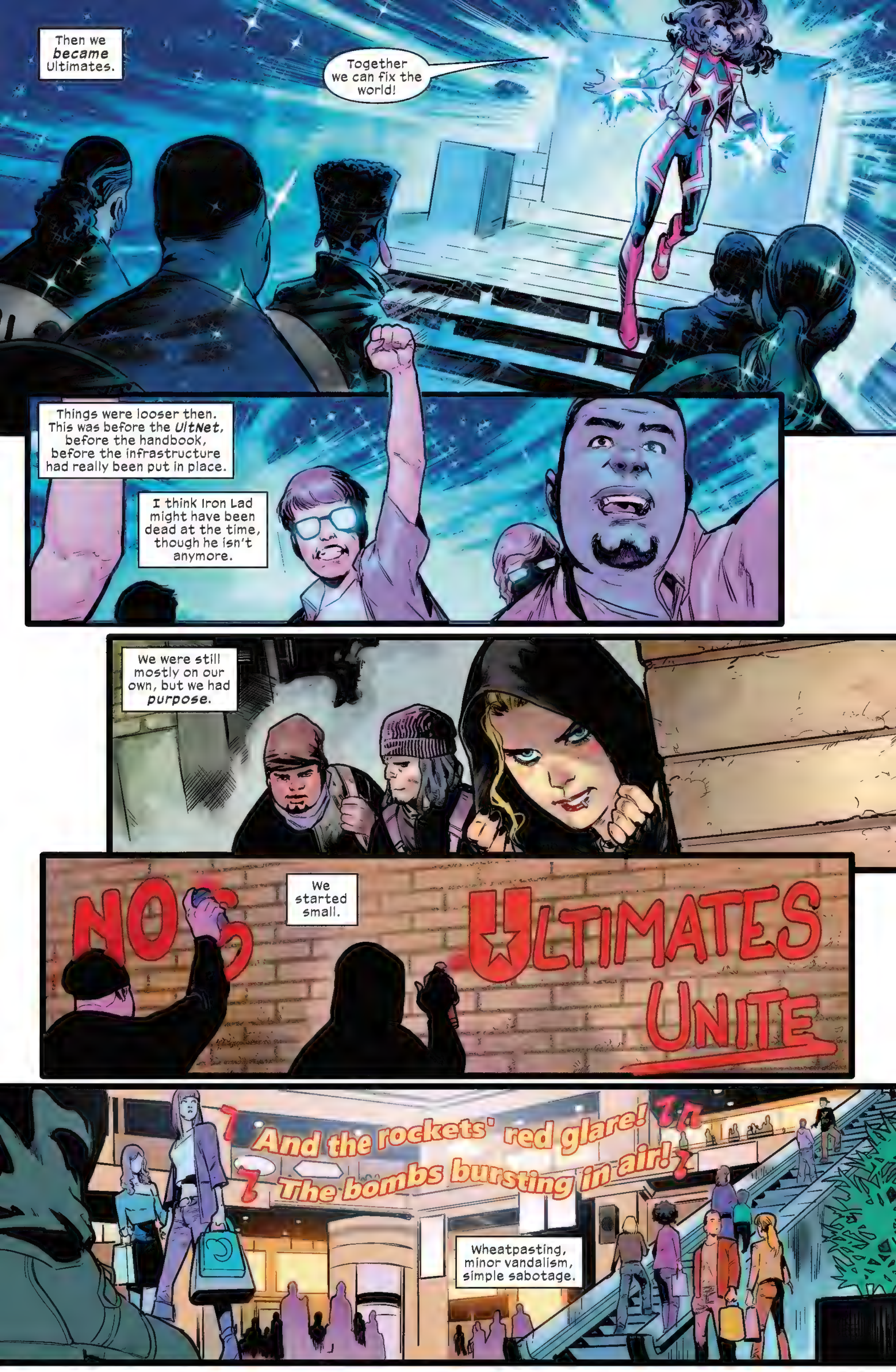

But someone must have, because one morning when I went by her house on the way to school, her parents told me she'd died suddenly in her sleep.
A disease? What kind of disease?
It was... genetic.
They were lying. I *knew* they were lying. I didn't breathe a word.
She was my ***best friend,*** but I didn't breathe a word.
ome.
I held my breath, waiting for them to come. The men in black and white.
I held my breath for a long time.
STS PUT THEIR FOOT DOWN
conspiracy groups claim footprint proof of god
Until one day, I saw something that finally forced the air from my lungs.

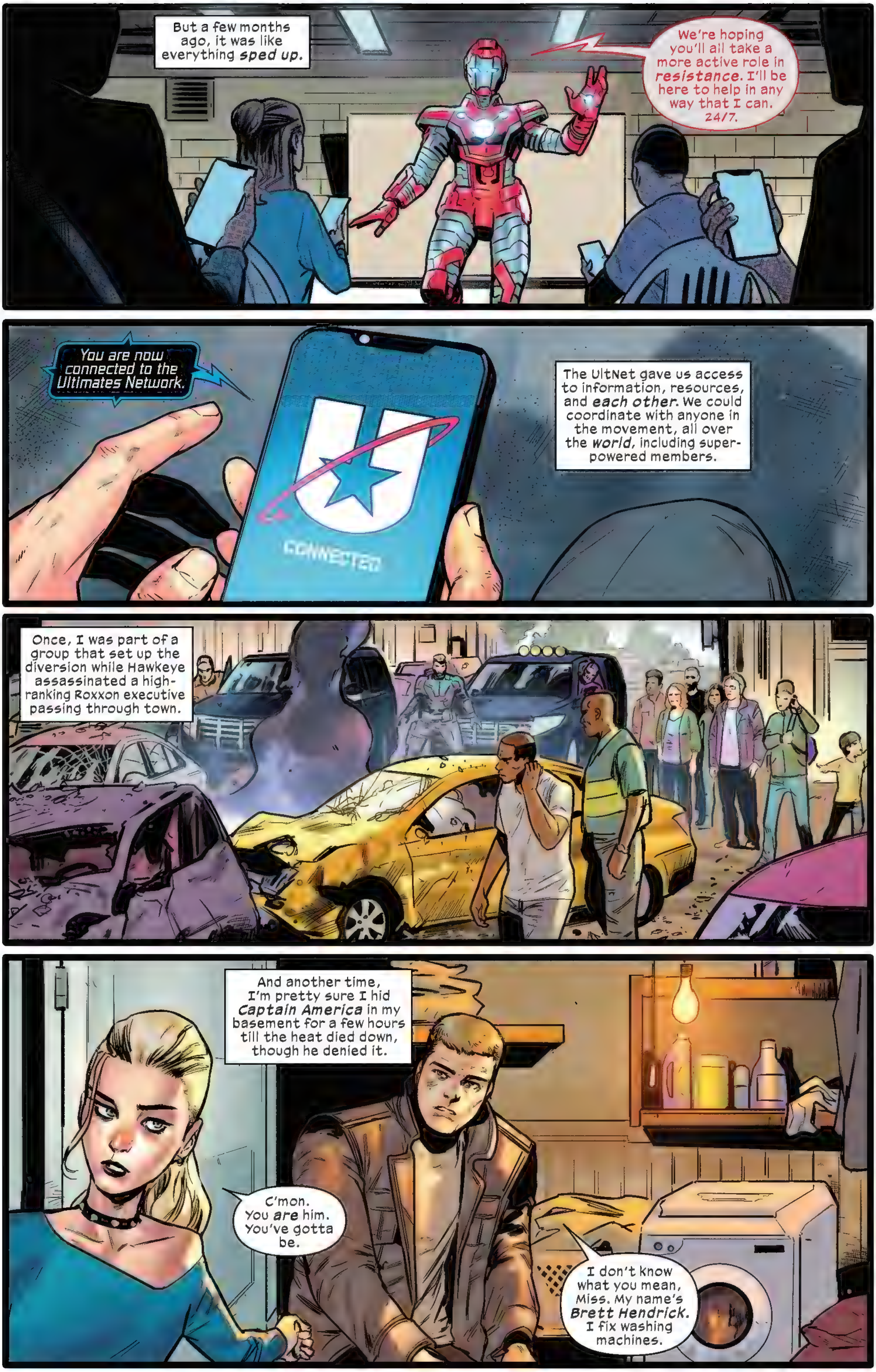

NOW.
DING DONG
Wait!
Don't open the door, Dad.
What? Why?
What did you do?
BANG BANG BANG
After I saw that news broadcast...

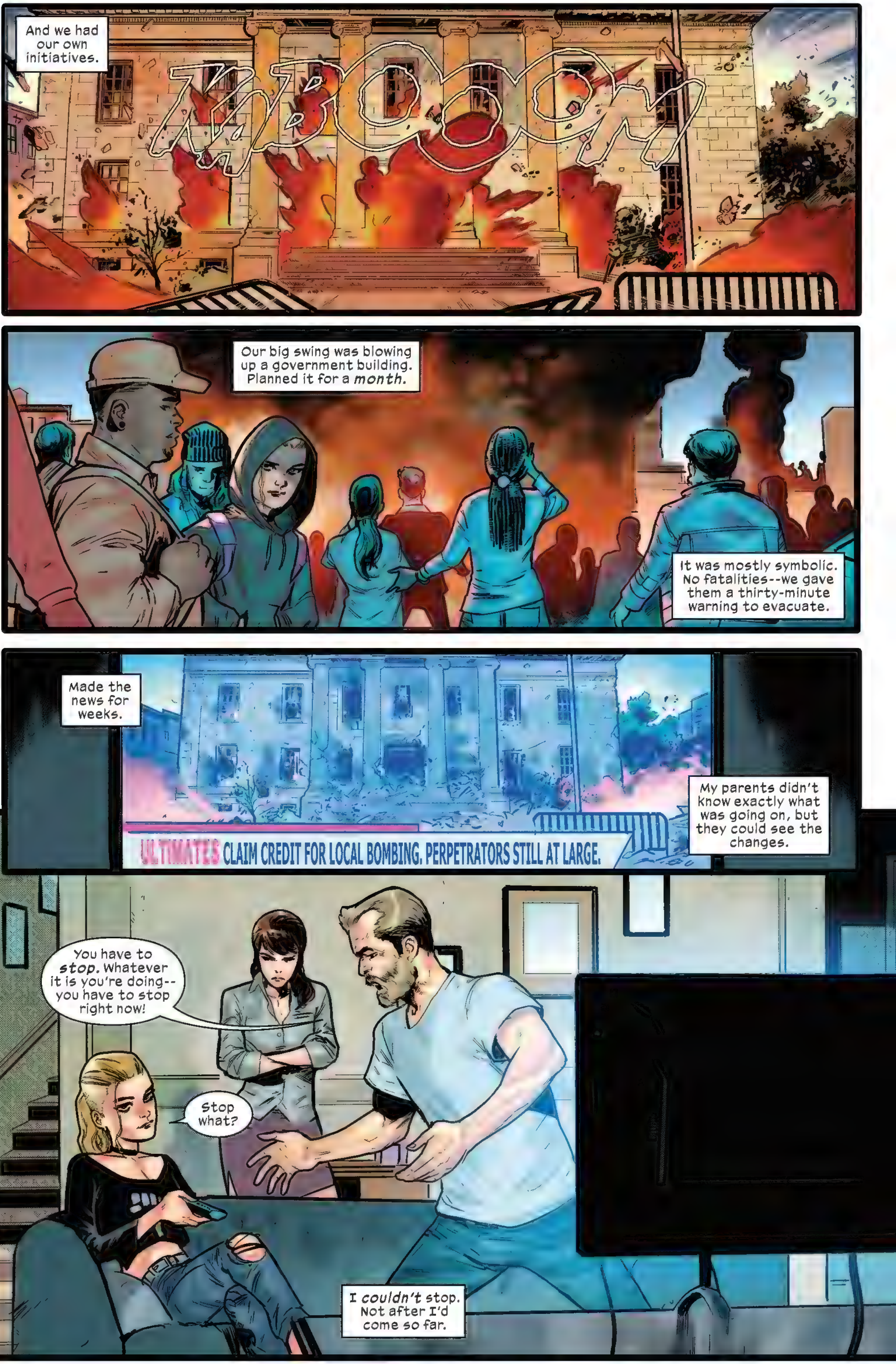

...I read everything about the *Ultimates* I could find. Official media made them look like cartoon villains, but *(mostly suppressed)* firsthand accounts painted a different picture.
Who Are the Ultimates?
THE ULTIMATES:
They hate you !
I wanted to make up my own mind.
--took responsibility for the power outages, so why would they deny the Stark Tower incident?
FedUlx
I started asking questions I probably shouldn't have...
--HEAR OF THE SAVAGE LAND? ROXXON POISONED A PARADISE. IS IT EVIL TO STOP THEM? ISN'T IT MORE EVIL *NOT* TO?
--could end homelessness overnight if we wanted to. So why don't we?
My parents didn't like it.
What do you think you're doing?! You're going to get yourself in trouble!
I don't want to hear another word about the Ultimates in this house.
So I didn't breathe a word.

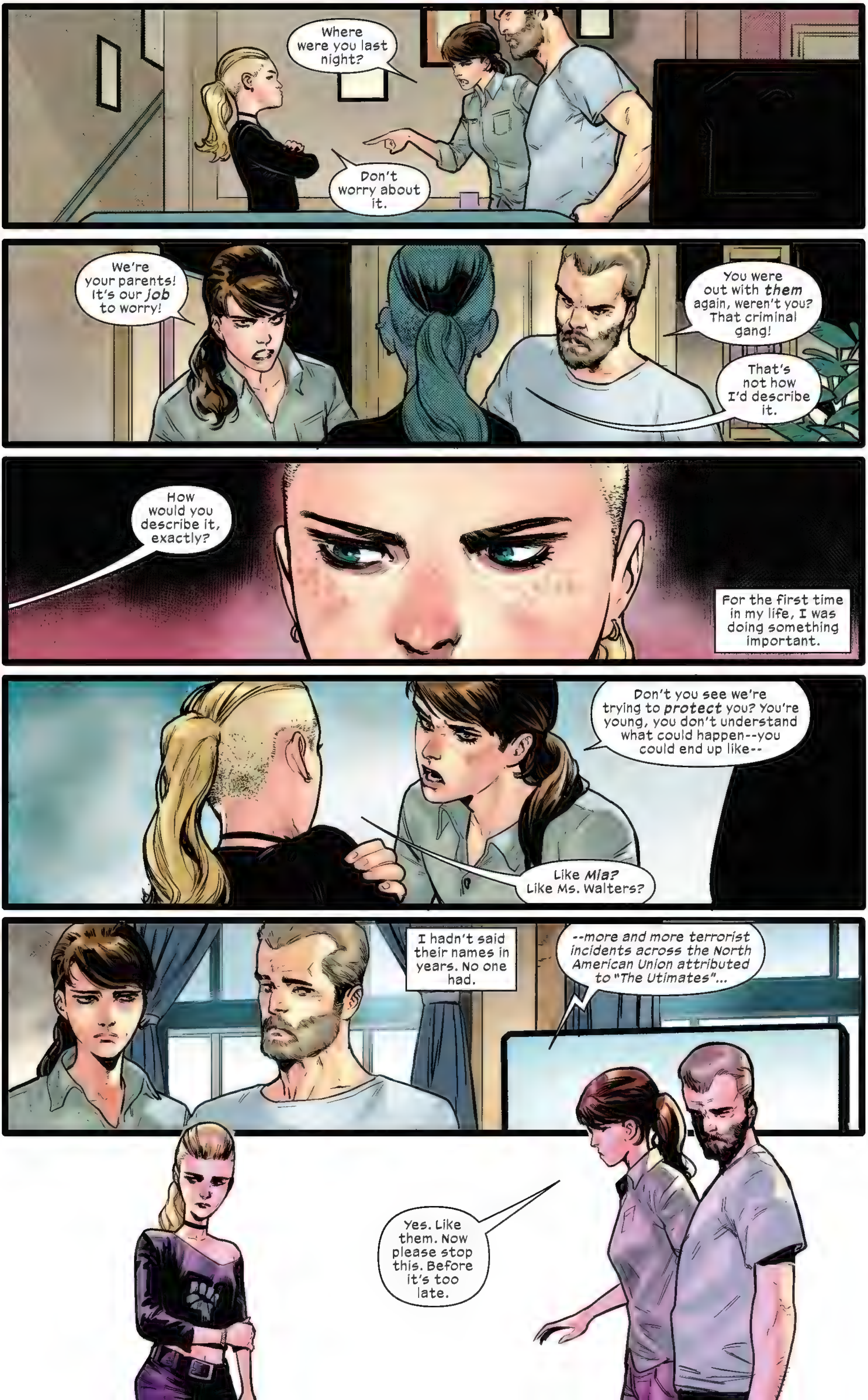

Around my *parents* anyway. But I kept digging.
I couldn't reach the Ultimates, but I found out there had been people--*normal people*--demanding democracy in the North American Union for as long as there had been a **North American Union.**
Which was news to me. So much for *school.*
Password?
Of the people, by the people, for the people.
The groups were small, isolated and *invite only.*
They could throw you into one of those Midas prisons indefinitely, just on suspicion of membership.
--conspiracy to rob us of our rights. I believe I've found evidence that world leaders were coerced--
The first meeting I went to, I waited for blurred faces to come drag us away.
Password?
I kept waiting. But I kept coming back.

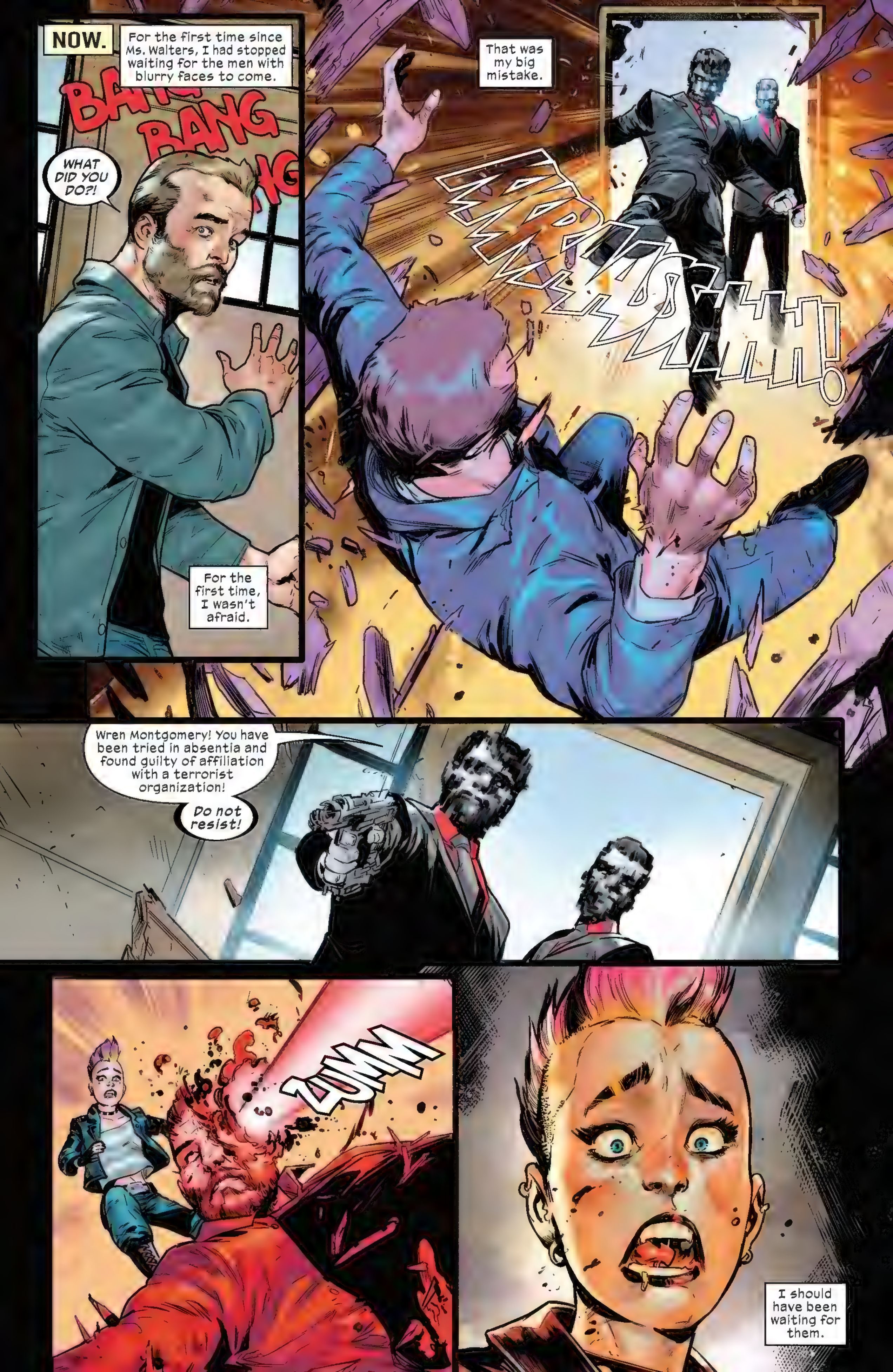

It didn't take long to realize that having meetings was pretty much all these people had done for the last sixty years.
--move that we form a committee to research the possibility of circulating a petition!
But the Ultimates had lit a fire. I saw more and more new faces--younger, angrier, hungry for *action.*
--how stupid do they think we are?! Like we can't see what's right in front of our faces?!
--and I never saw her again. It was like she never existed.
People like me.
Even the old-timers seemed newly energized.
They treat us like children!
We'd all been inspired by the Ultimates.

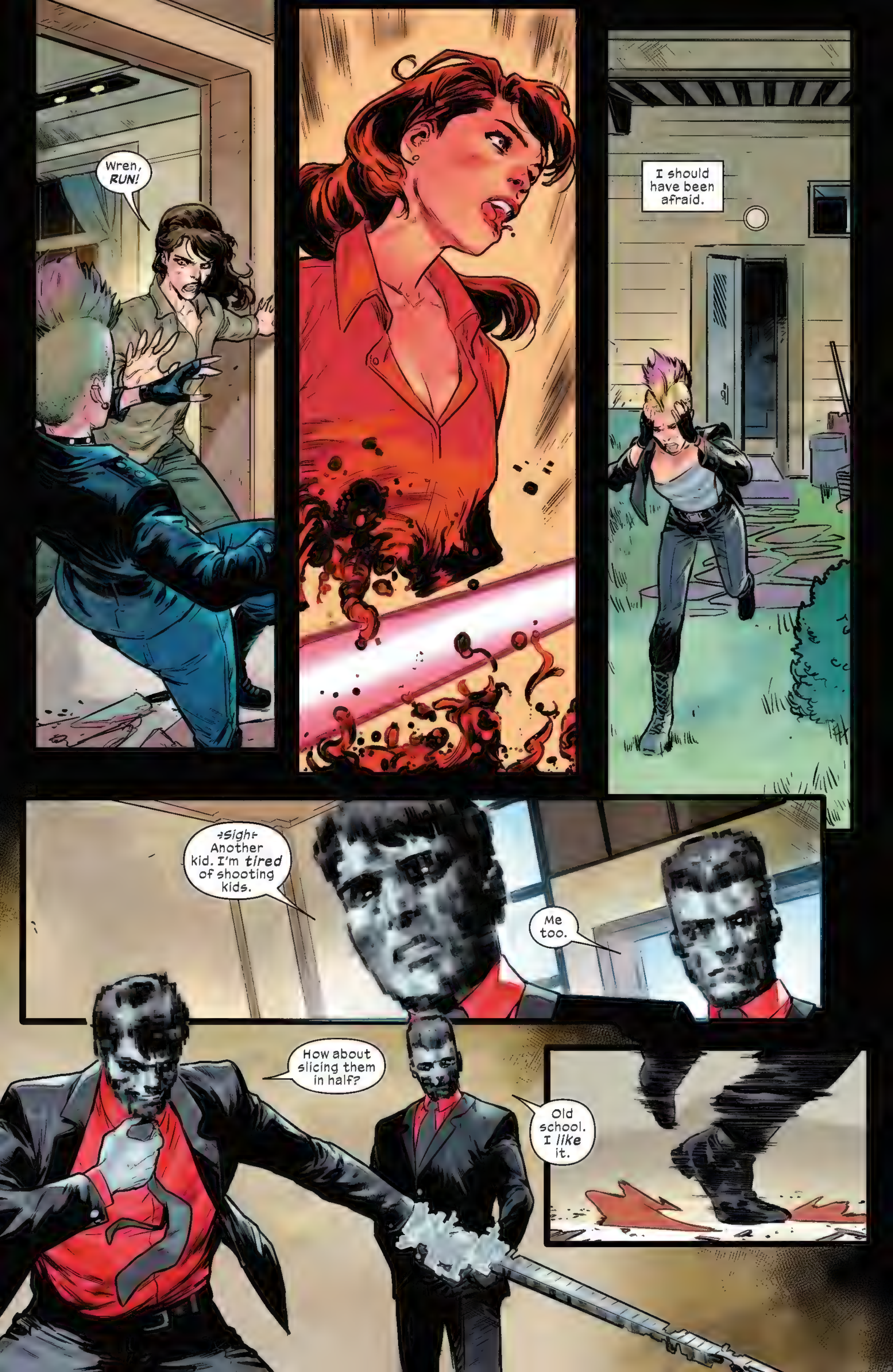

Then we *became* Ultimates.
Together we can fix the world!
Things were looser then. This was before the *UltNet*, before the handbook, before the infrastructure had really been put in place.
I think Iron Lad might have been dead at the time, though he isn't anymore.
We were still mostly on our own, but we had *purpose*.
NO
ULTIMATES UNITE
We started small.
And the rockets' red glare!
The bombs bursting in air!
Wheatpasting, minor vandalism, simple sabotage.

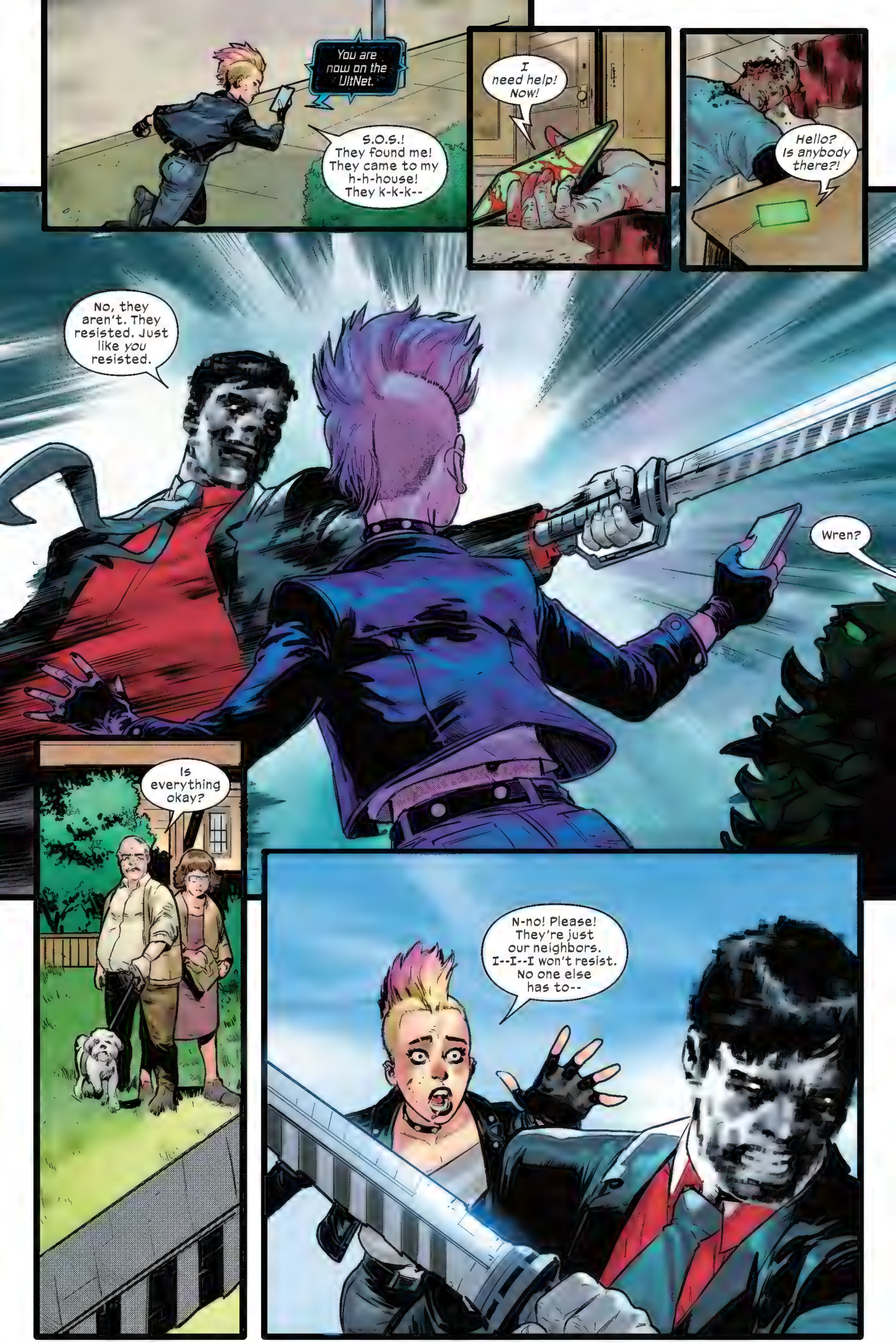

But a few months ago, it was like everything *sped up.*
We're hoping you'll all take a more active role in *resistance.* I'll be here to help in any way that I can. 24/7.
You are now connected to the Ultimates Network.
CONNECTED
The UltNet gave us access to information, resources, and *each other.* We could coordinate with anyone in the movement, all over the *world*, including super-powered members.
Once, I was part of a group that set up the diversion while Hawkeye assassinated a high-ranking Roxxon executive passing through town.
And another time, I'm pretty sure I hid *Captain America* in my basement for a few hours till the heat died down, though he denied it.
C'mon. You *are* him. You've gotta be.
I don't know what you mean, Miss. My name's *Brett Hendrick.* I fix washing machines.

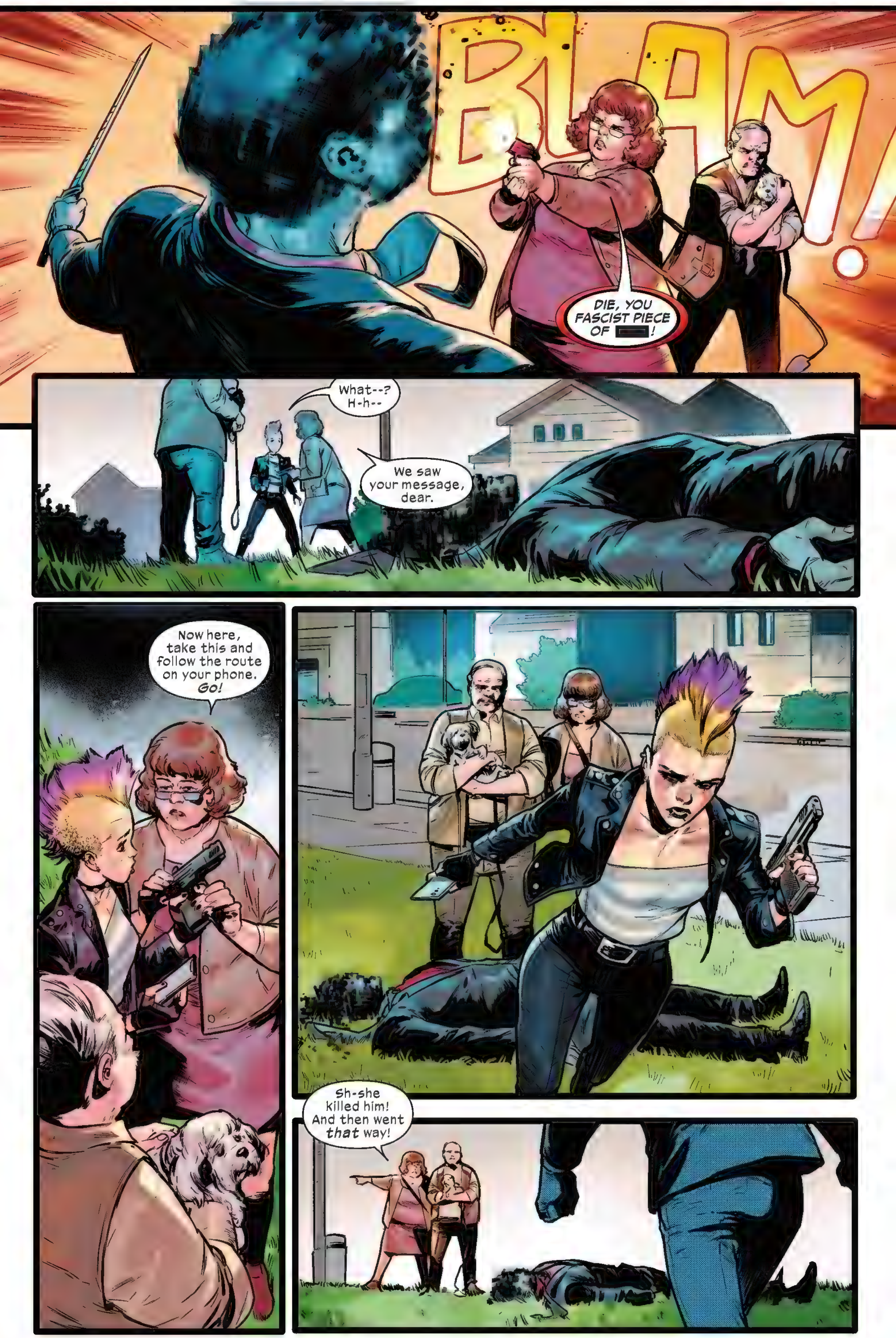

And we had our own initiatives.
KABOOM
Our big swing was blowing up a government building. Planned it for a *month.*
It was mostly symbolic. No fatalities--we gave them a thirty-minute warning to evacuate.
Made the news for weeks.
ULTIMATES CLAIM CREDIT FOR LOCAL BOMBING. PERPETRATORS STILL AT LARGE.
My parents didn't know exactly what was going on, but they could see the changes.
You have to *stop.* Whatever it is you're doing--you have to stop right now!
Stop what?
I *couldn't* stop. Not after I'd come so far.

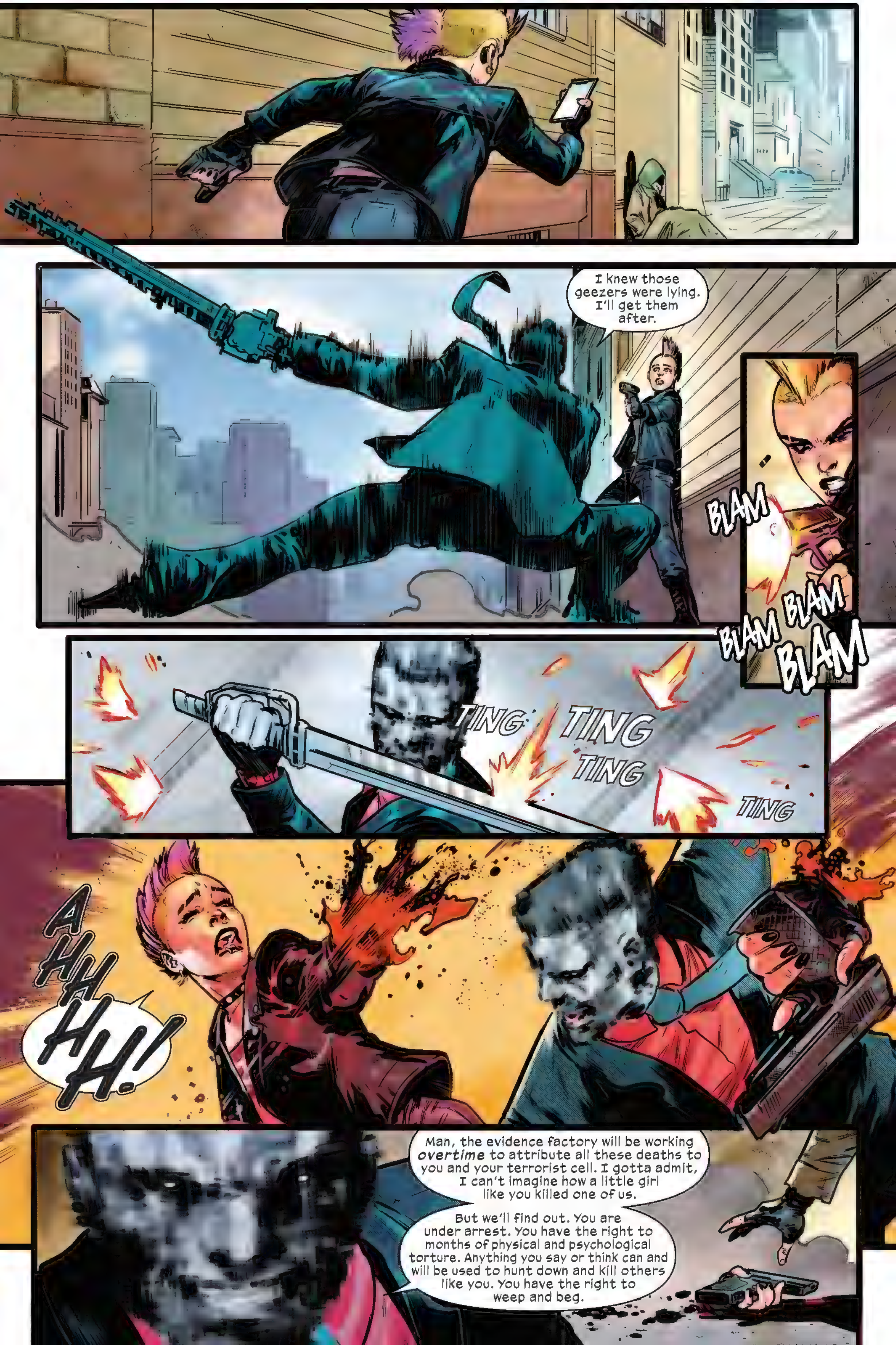

Where were you last night?
Don't worry about it.
We're your parents! It's our *job* to worry!
You were out with *them* again, weren't you? That criminal gang!
That's not how I'd describe it.
How would you describe it, exactly?
For the first time in my life, I was doing something important.
Don't you see we're trying to *protect* you? You're young, you don't understand what could happen--you could end up like--
Like *Mia?* Like Ms. Walters?
I hadn't said their names in years. No one had.
--more and more terrorist incidents across the North American Union attributed to "The Utimates"...
Yes. Like them. Now please stop this. Before it's too late.

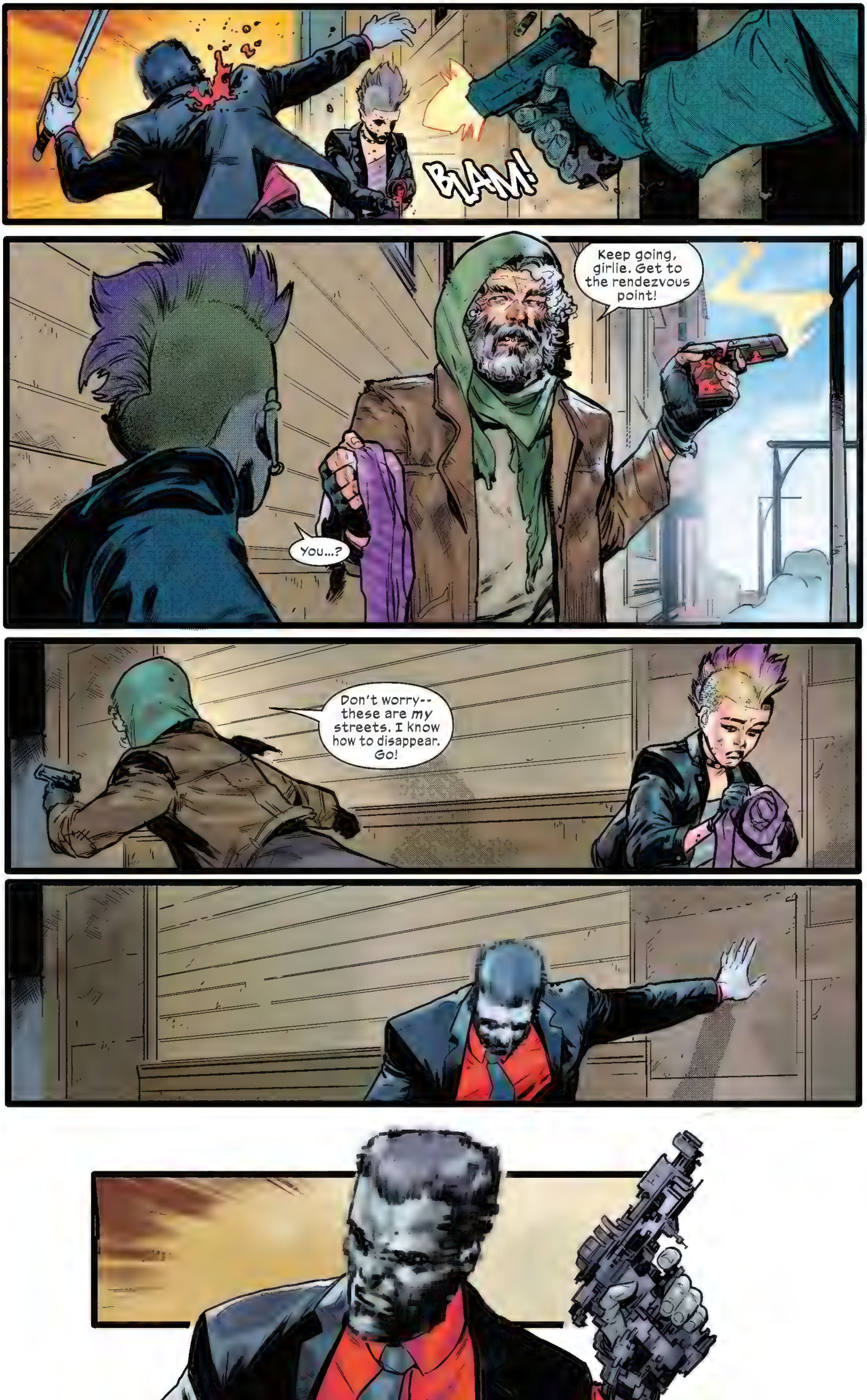

NOW.
For the first time since Ms. Walters, I had stopped waiting for the men with blurry faces to come.
BANG
BANG
WHAT DID YOU DO?!
For the first time, I wasn't afraid.
That was my big mistake.
Wren Montgomery! You have been tried in absentia and found guilty of affiliation with a terrorist organization!
Do not resist!
ZUMM
I should have been waiting for them.

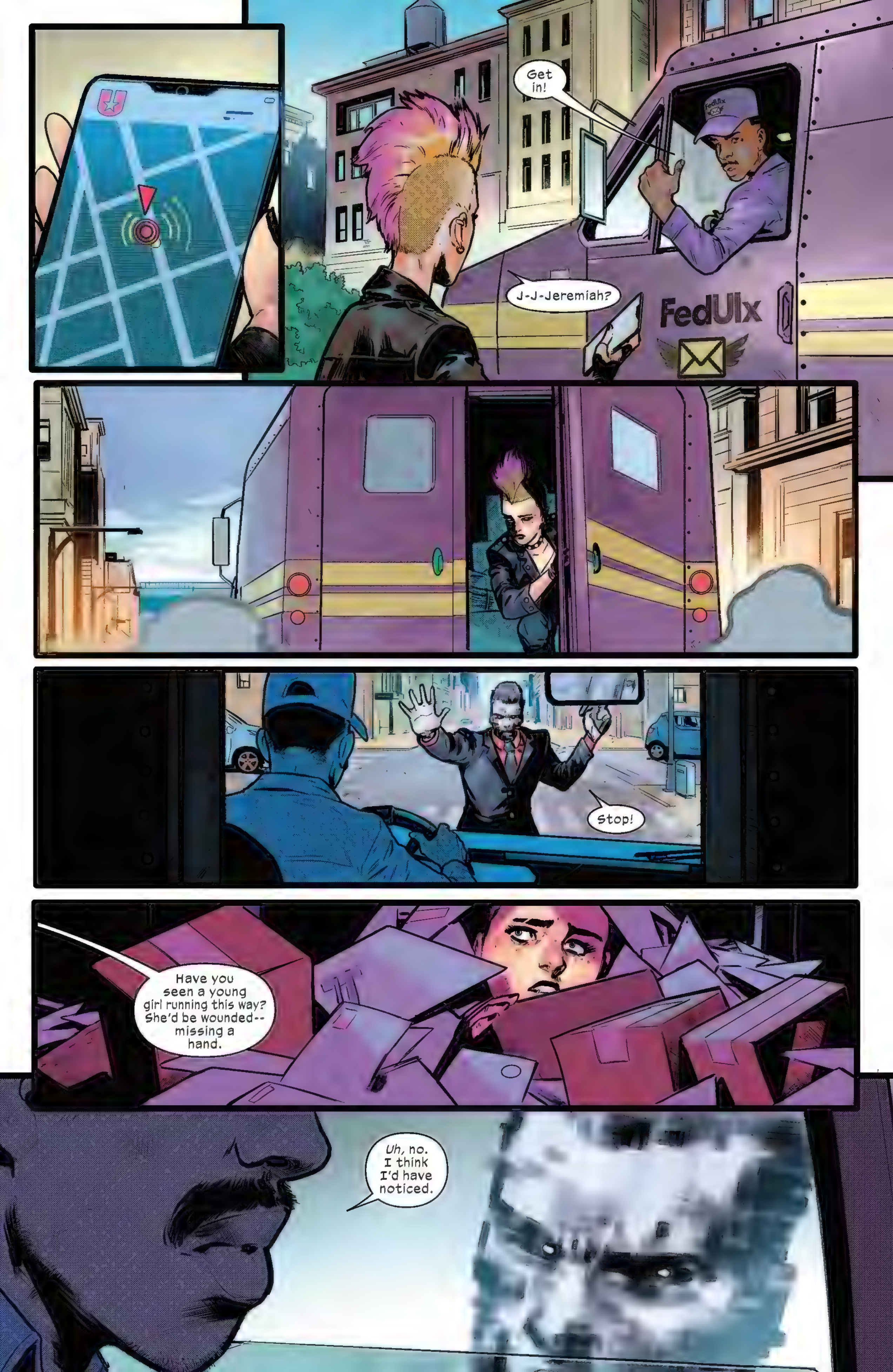

Wren, *RUN!*
I should have been afraid.
-*Sigh*- Another kid. I'm *tired* of shooting kids.
Me too.
How about slicing them in half?
Old school. I *like* it.

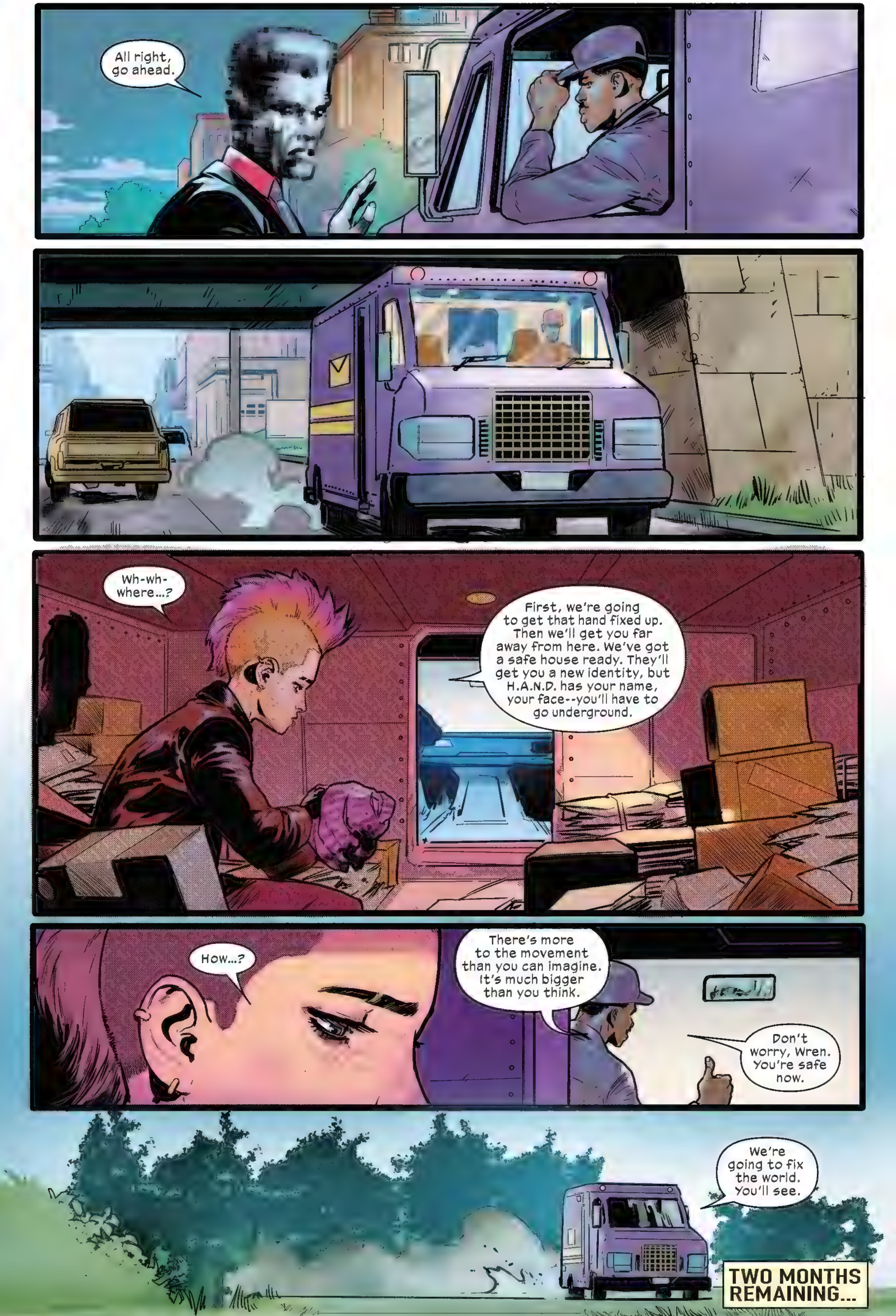

You are now on the UltNet.
S.O.S.! They found me! They came to my h-h-house! They k-k-k--
I need help! Now!
Hello? Is anybody there?!
No, they aren't. They resisted. Just like *you* resisted.
Wren?
Is everything okay?
N-no! Please! They're just our neighbors. I--I--I won't resist. No one else has to--


BLAM!!
DIE, YOU FASCIST PIECE OF [redacted]!
What--? H-h--
We saw your message, dear.
Now here, take this and follow the route on your phone. *Go!*
Sh-she killed him! And then went *that* way!


I knew those geezers were lying. I'll get them after.
BLAM
BLAM BLAM
BLAM
TING
TING
TING
TING
AHHHH!
Man, the evidence factory will be working *overtime* to attribute all these deaths to you and your terrorist cell. I gotta admit, I can't imagine how a little girl like you killed one of us.
But we'll find out. You are under arrest. You have the right to months of physical and psychological torture. Anything you say or think can and will be used to hunt down and kill others like you. You have the right to weep and beg.


BLAM!
Keep going, girlie. Get to the rendezvous point!
You...?
Don't worry-- these are *my* streets. I know how to disappear. Go!


Get in!
J-J-Jeremiah?
FedUlx
Stop!
Have you seen a young girl running this way? She'd be wounded--missing a hand.
Uh, no. I think I'd have noticed.


All right, go ahead.
Wh-wh-where...?
First, we're going to get that hand fixed up. Then we'll get you far away from here. We've got a safe house ready. They'll get you a new identity, but H.A.N.D. has your name, your face--you'll have to go underground.
How...?
There's more to the movement than you can imagine. It's much bigger than you think.
Don't worry, Wren. You're safe now.
We're going to fix the world. You'll see.
TWO MONTHS REMAINING...

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CAMP NOTO

ON SALE IN **OCTOBER**

ON SALE THIS MONTH

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ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN #21

BY **JONATHAN HICKMAN**
& **DAVID MESSINA**

MARVEL
ULTIMATE BLACK PANTHER
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ULTIMATE BLACK PANTHER #20

BY **BRYAN HILL**
& **STEFANO CASELLI**

MARVEL
ULTIMATE X-MEN

ULTIMATE X-MEN #19

BY **PEACH MOMOKO**

MARVEL
ULTIMATE WOLVERINE
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ULTIMATE WOLVERINE #9

BY **CHRIS CONDON** &
ALESSANDRO CAPPUCCIO

MARVEL
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ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN: INCURSION #4

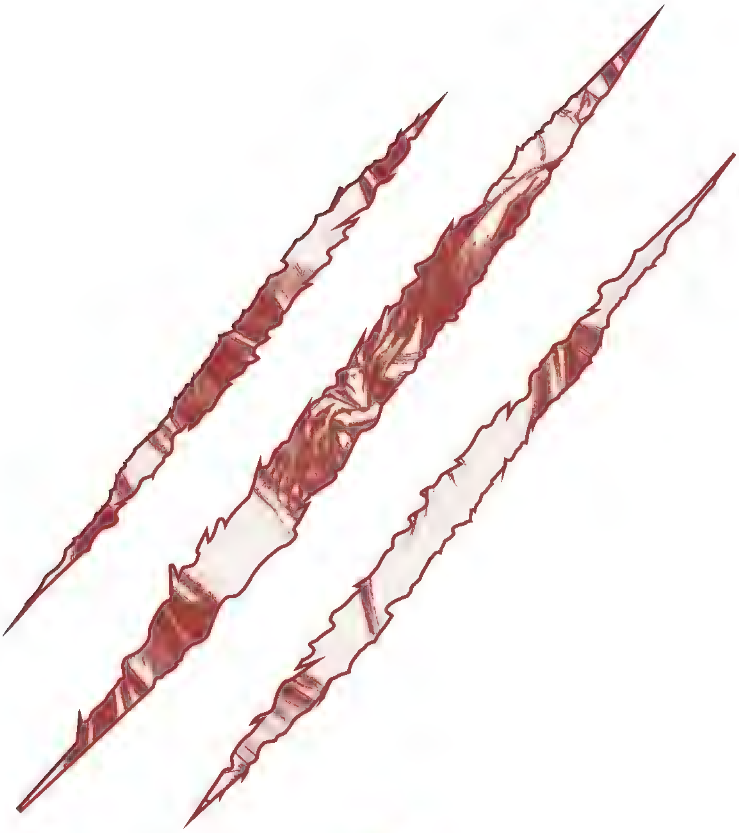
BY **DENIZ CAMP, CODY ZIGLAR**
& **JONAS SCHARF**

MARVEL
ULTIMATE HAWKEYE

ULTIMATE HAWKEYE #1

BY **DENIZ CAMP**, **TABOO**, **B. EARL**,
JUAN FRIGERI & **MICHAEL STA. MARIA**

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU! EMAIL US AT **ULTIMATEOFFICE@MARVEL.COM** AND MARK YOUR LETTERS **"OKAY TO PRINT"**!



9

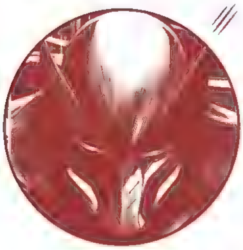
A diabolical genius known as **THE MAKER** used time travel to create his ideal Earth by systematically preventing anyone from ever becoming a super hero and by establishing a secret council of super villains, **THE MAKER'S COUNCIL**, that rules the world from the shadows.

Three of those council members—**COLOSSUS**, **MAGIK** and **OMEGA RED**—run the **EURASIAN REPUBLIC**, one of two places in the world for all known mutant activity. Through their government's top-secret division "**DIRECTORATE X**," headed by **DR. ALONYA PROSTOVICH** and designed to exploit the unique genetic powers exhibited in mutantkind, they turned the mutant known as **LOGAN** into their most lethal weapon, the brainwashed **WINTER SOLDIER**.

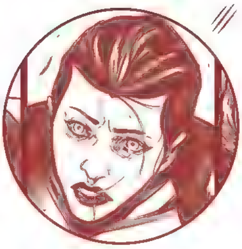
However, Logan's programming was broken after he reunited with a group of mutant freedom fighters known as **THE OPPOSITION**, taking the name **WOLVERINE**. After losing members **BEAST** and **ABIGAIL BRAND** during a mission against one of Dr. Prostovich's many experiments, Logan and the Opposition launch their next attack...

ULTIMATE WOLVERINE

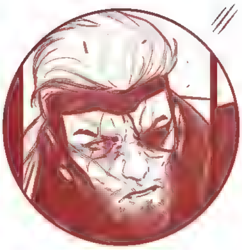
CAST:



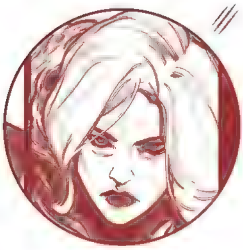
WOLVERINE/
THE WINTER SOLDIER
LOGAN



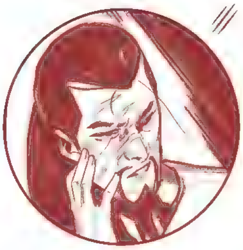
SPRITE
KITTY PRYDE



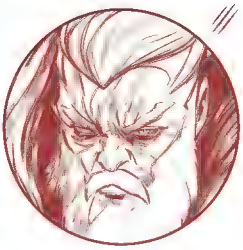
GAMBIT
REMY LeBEAU



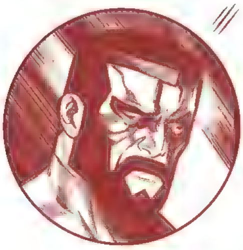
BLACK WIDOW
NATASHA ROMANOFF



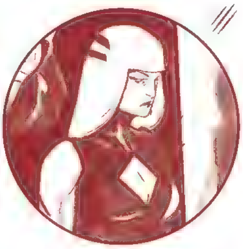
MIKHAIL RASPUTIN
OPPOSITION LEADER



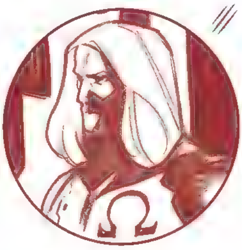
SABRETOOTH
VICTOR CREED



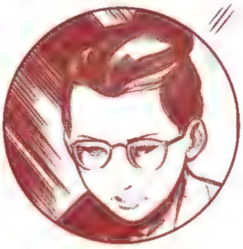
COLOSSUS
PIOTR RASPUTIN



MAGIK
ILLYANA RASPUTIN

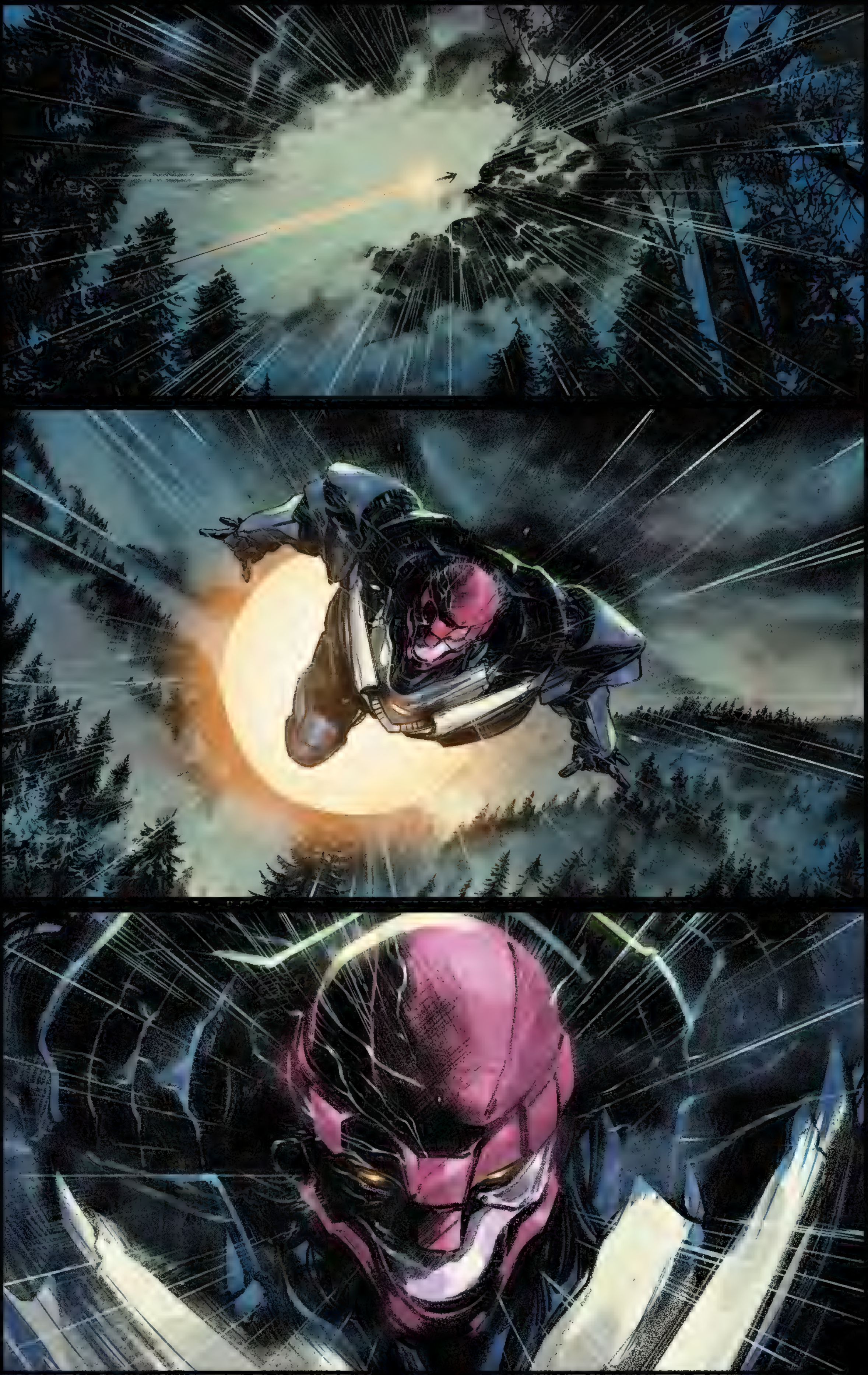


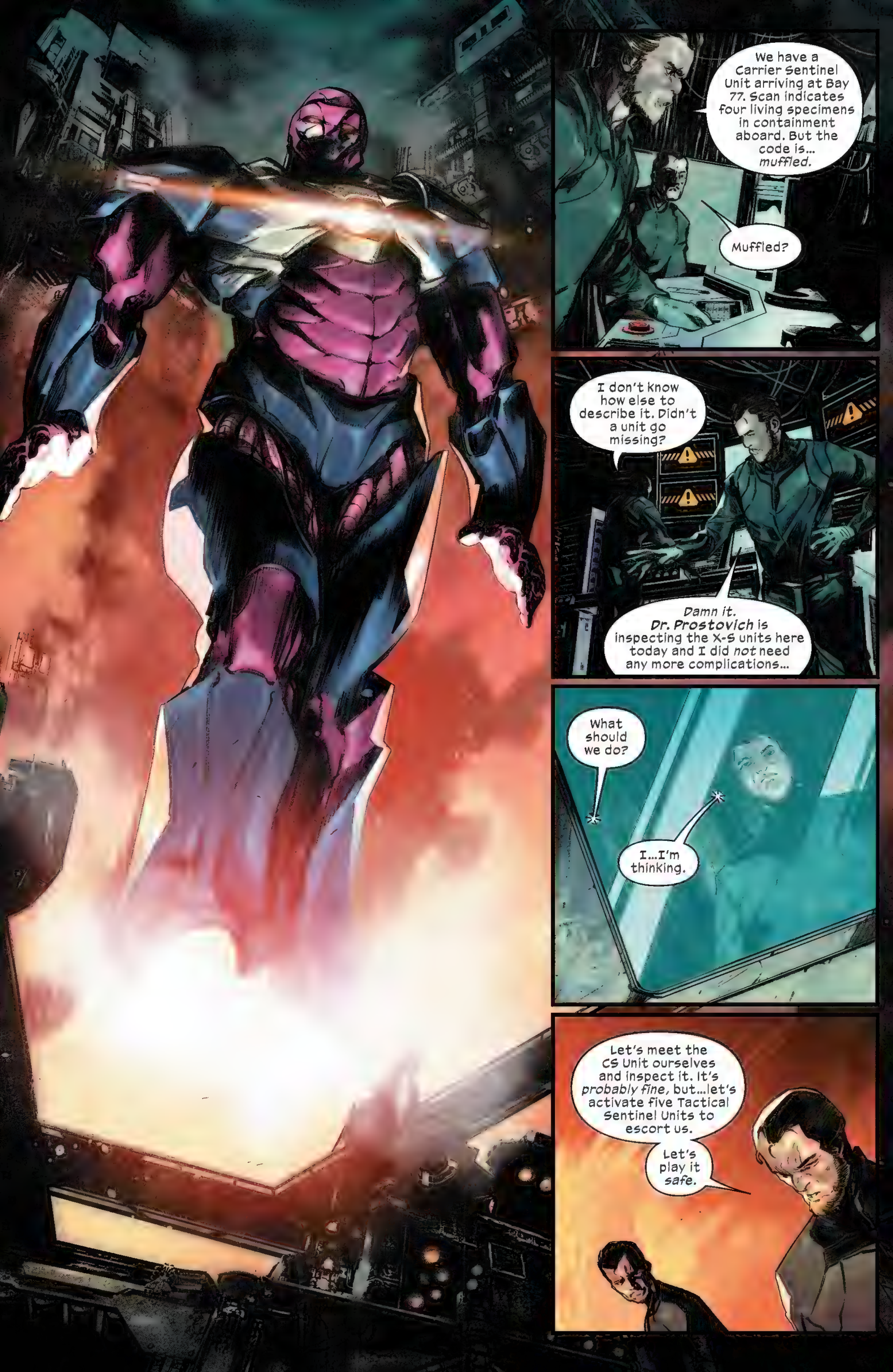
OMEGA RED
ARKADY ROSSOVICH

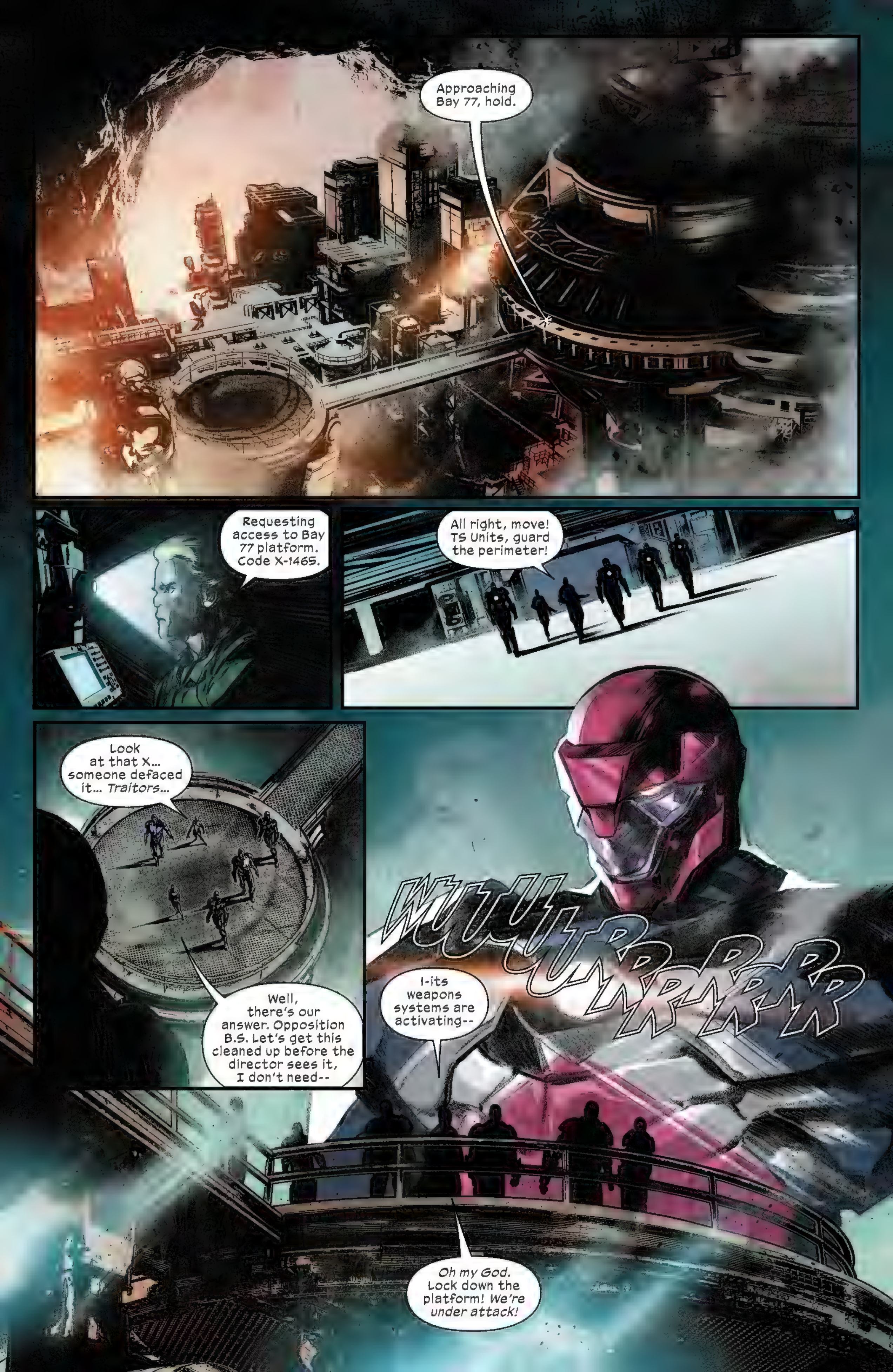


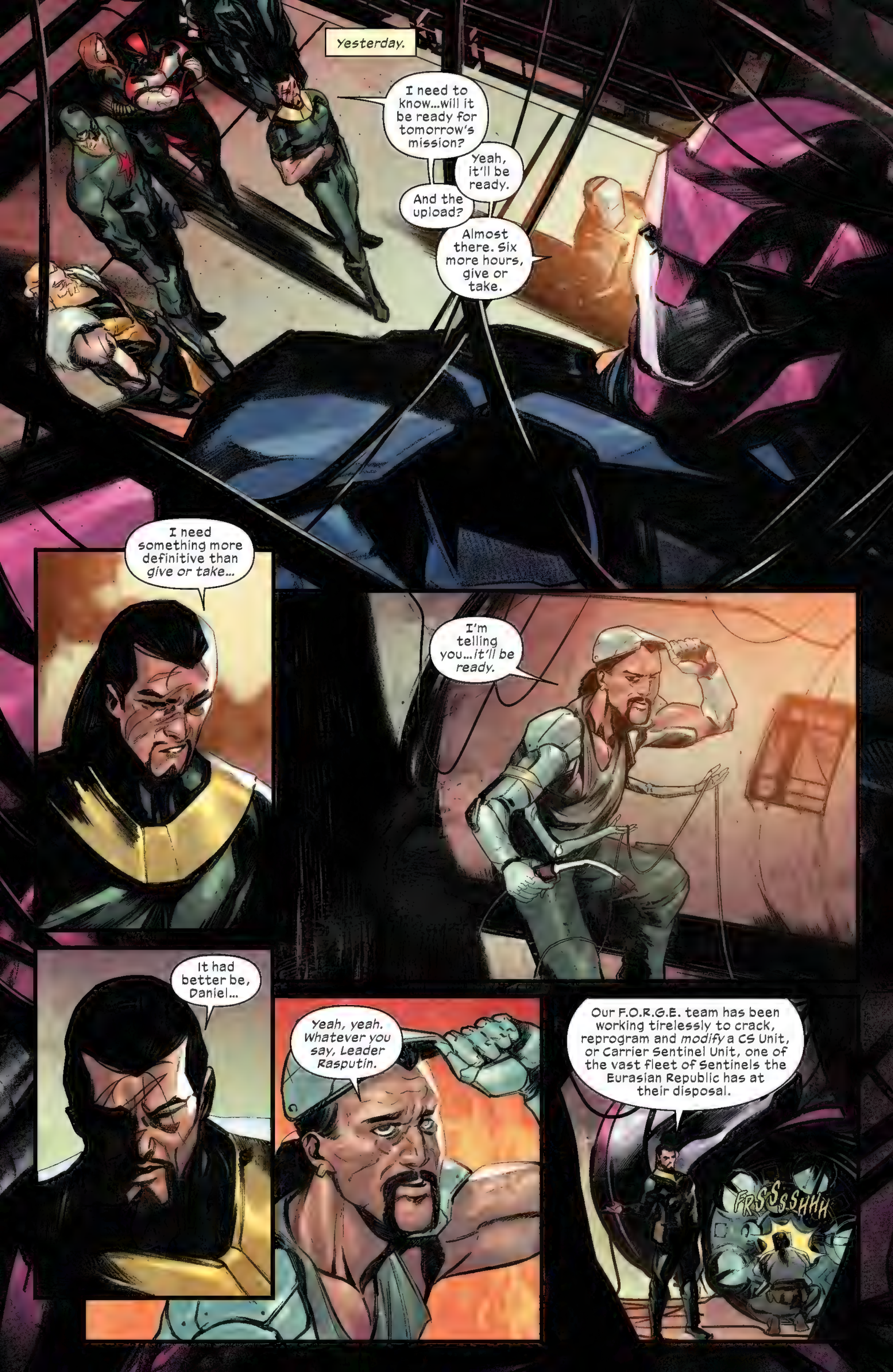
DR. ALONYA
PROSTOVICH
DIRECTORATE X
RESEARCH HEAD

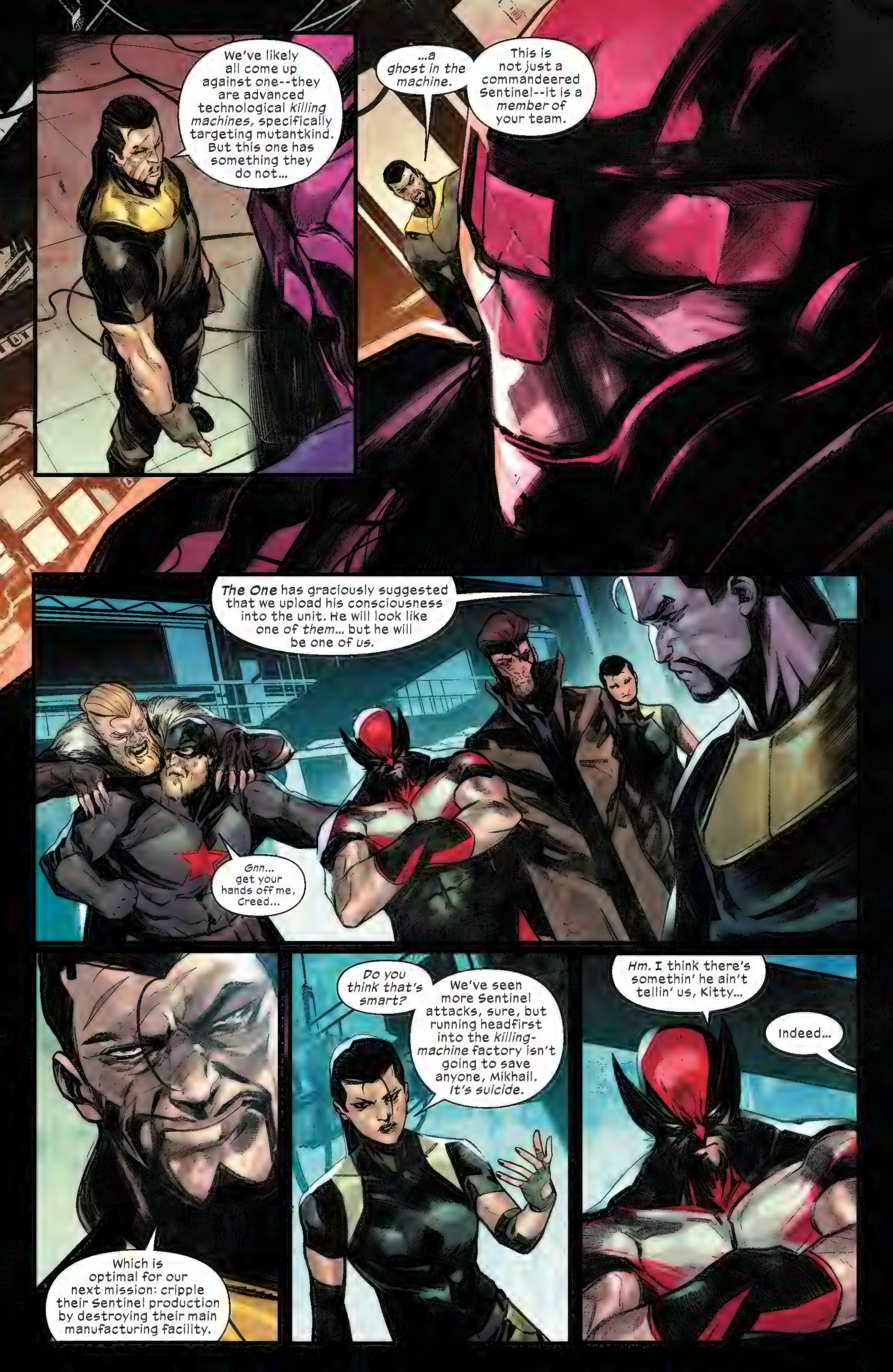
SEPTEMBER 2025

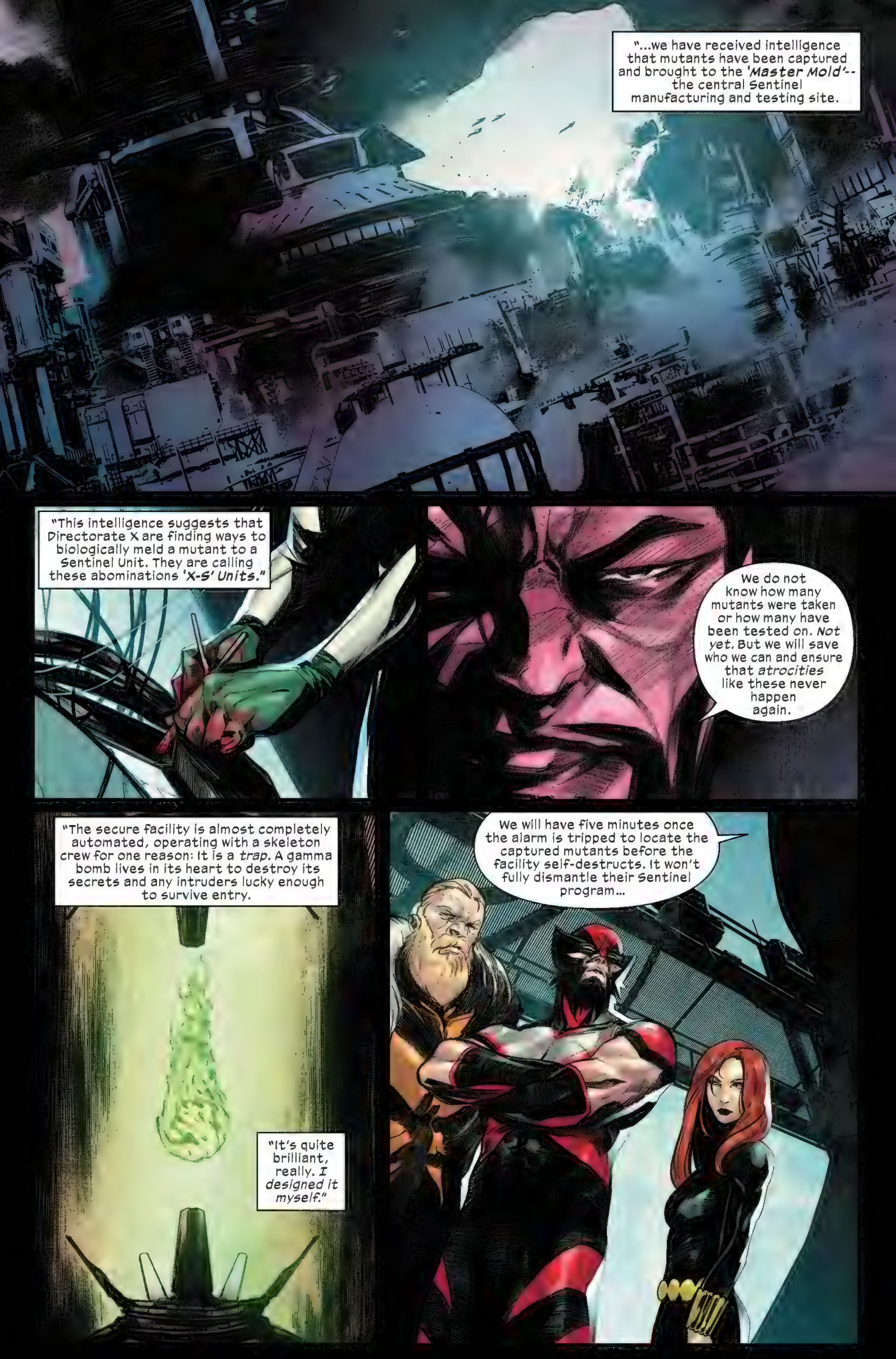


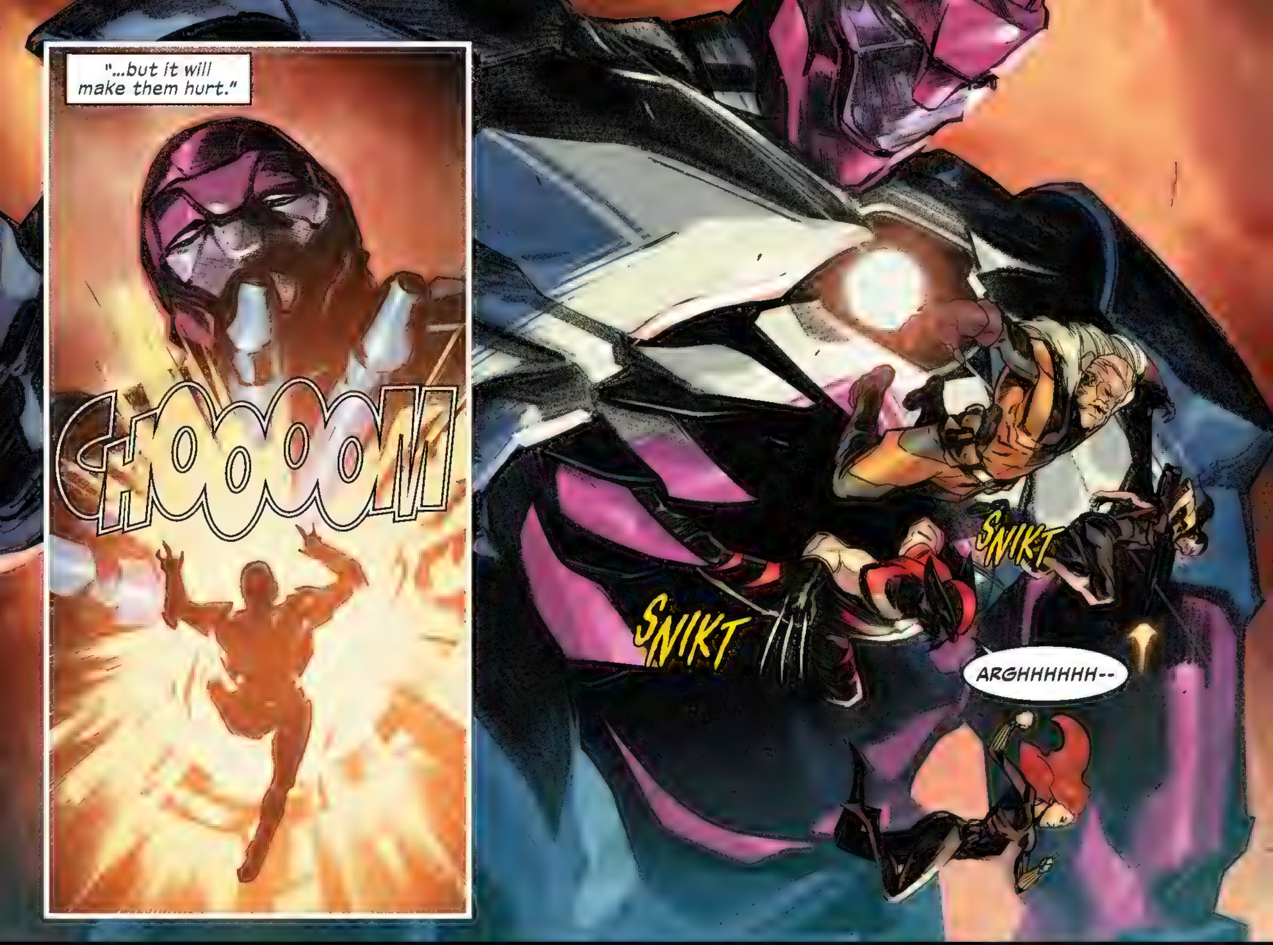

We have a Carrier Sentinel Unit arriving at Bay 77. Scan indicates four living specimens in containment aboard. But the code is... *muffled.*
Muffled?
I don't know how else to describe it. Didn't a unit go missing?
Damn it. **Dr. Prostovich** is inspecting the X-S units here today and I did *not* need any more complications...
What should we do?
I...I'm thinking.
Let's meet the CS Unit ourselves and inspect it. It's *probably fine,* but...let's activate five Tactical Sentinel Units to escort us.
Let's play it *safe.*

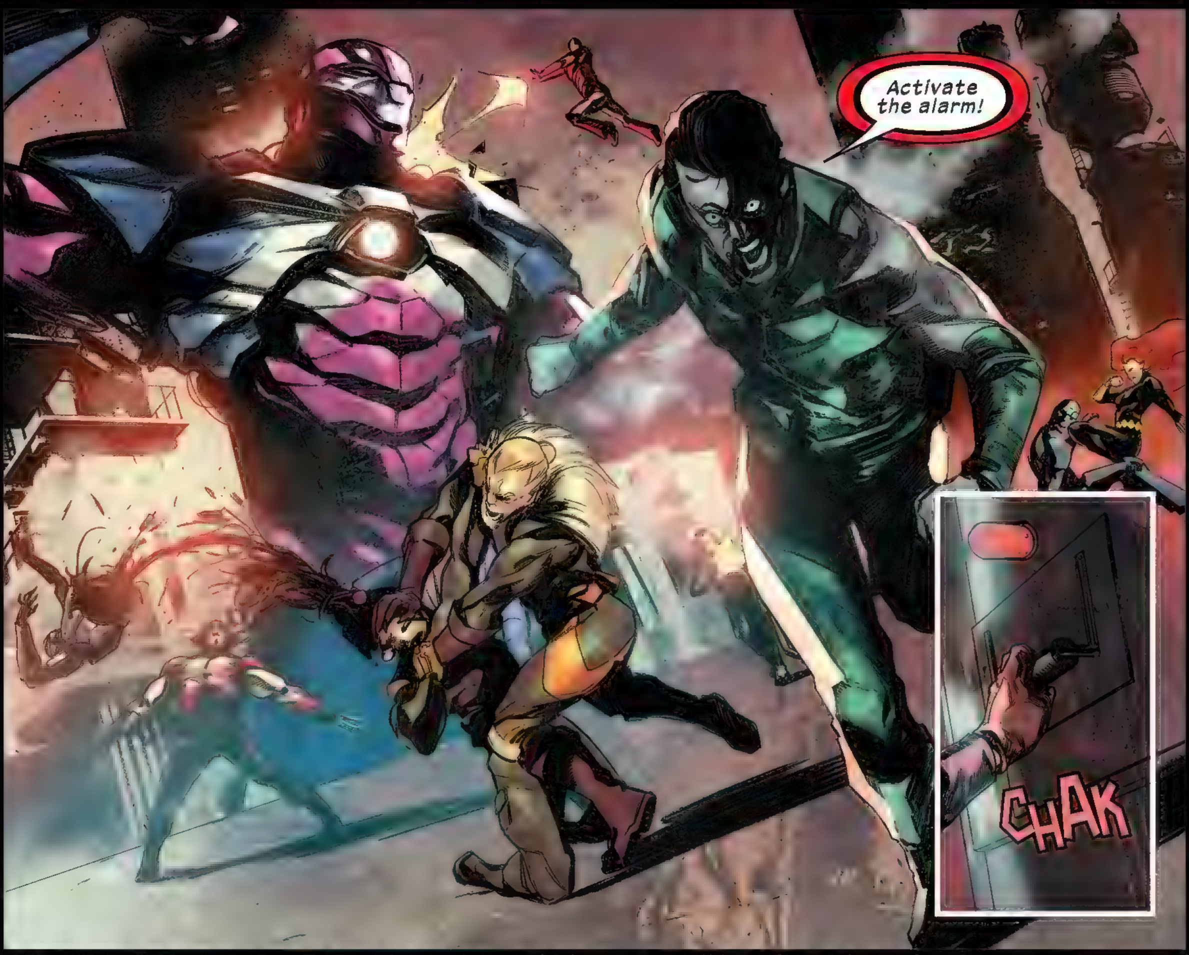

Approaching Bay 77, hold.
Requesting access to Bay 77 platform. Code X-1465.
All right, move! TS Units, guard the perimeter!
Look at that X... someone defaced it... *Traitors...*
Well, there's our answer. Opposition B.S. Let's get this cleaned up before the director sees it, I don't need--
WUUURRRRR
I-its weapons systems are activating--
Oh my God. Lock down the platform! *We're under attack!*

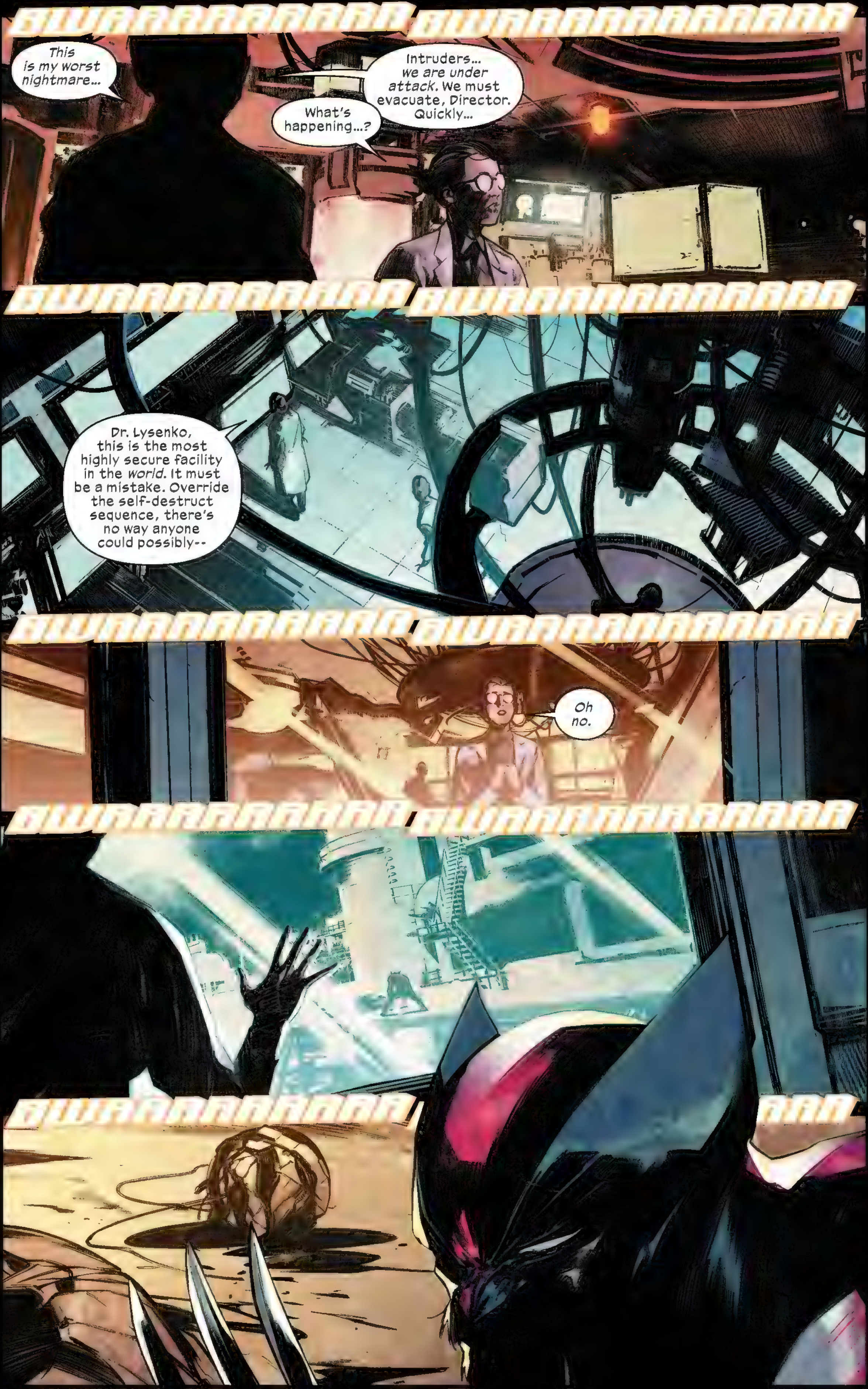

Yesterday.
I need to know...will it be ready for tomorrow's mission?
Yeah, it'll be ready.
And the upload?
Almost there. Six more hours, give or take.
I need something more definitive than *give or take*...
I'm telling you...*it'll* be *ready.*
It had better be, Daniel...
Yeah, yeah. Whatever you say, Leader Rasputin.
Our F.O.R.G.E. team has been working tirelessly to crack, reprogram and *modify* a CS Unit, or Carrier Sentinel Unit, one of the vast fleet of Sentinels the Eurasian Republic has at their disposal.
FRSSSSHHH

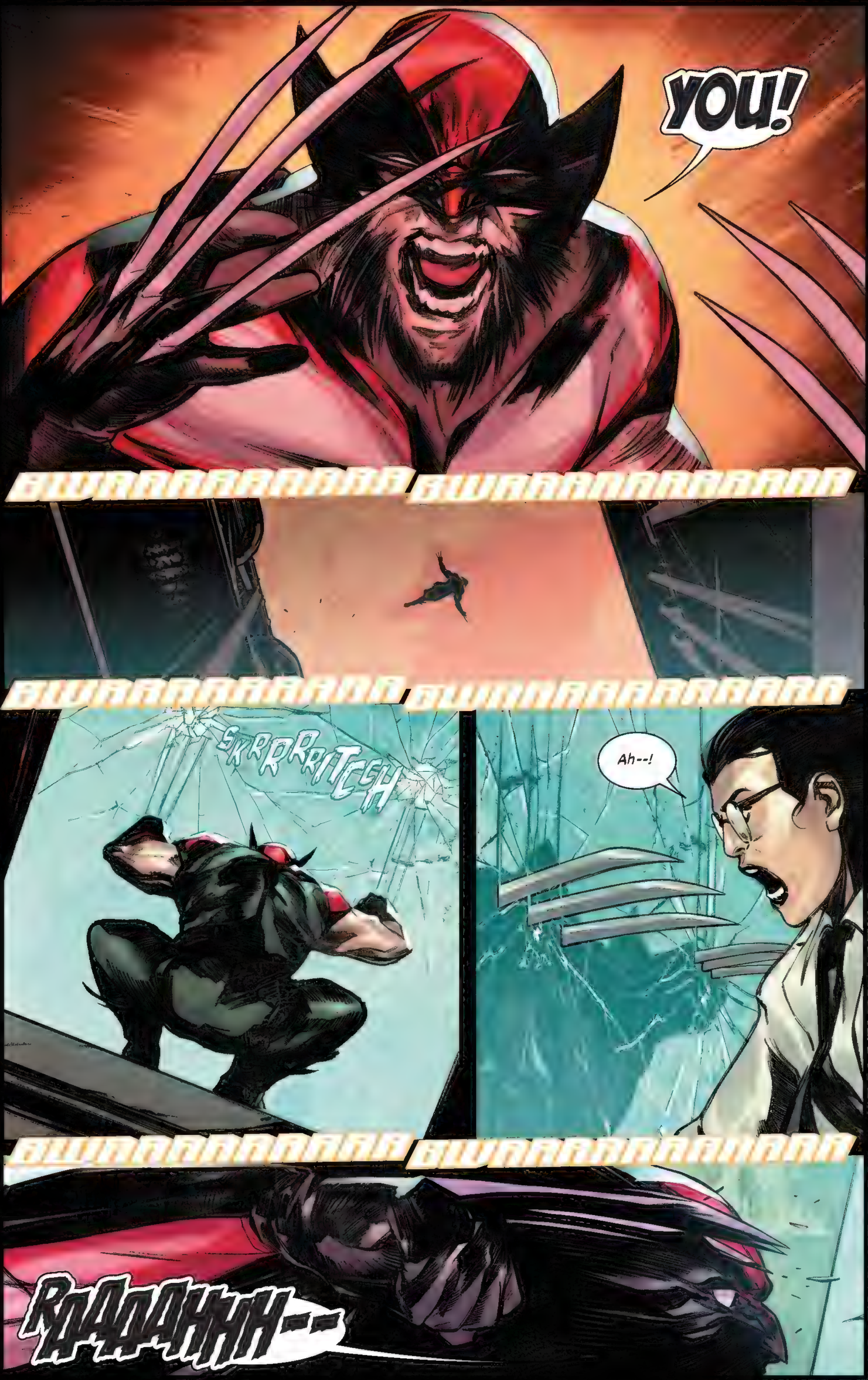

We've likely all come up against one--they are advanced technological *killing machines,* specifically targeting mutantkind. But this one has something they do not...
...a *ghost in the machine.*
This is not just a commandeered Sentinel--it is a *member* of your team.
The One has graciously suggested that we upload his consciousness into the unit. He will look like one of *them*... but he will be one of *us.*
Gnn... get your hands off me, Creed...
Which is optimal for our next mission: cripple their Sentinel production by destroying their main manufacturing facility.
Do you think that's smart?
We've seen more Sentinel attacks, sure, but running headfirst into the *killing-machine* factory isn't going to save anyone, Mikhail. *It's suicide.*
Hm. I think there's somethin' he ain't tellin' us, Kitty...
Indeed...

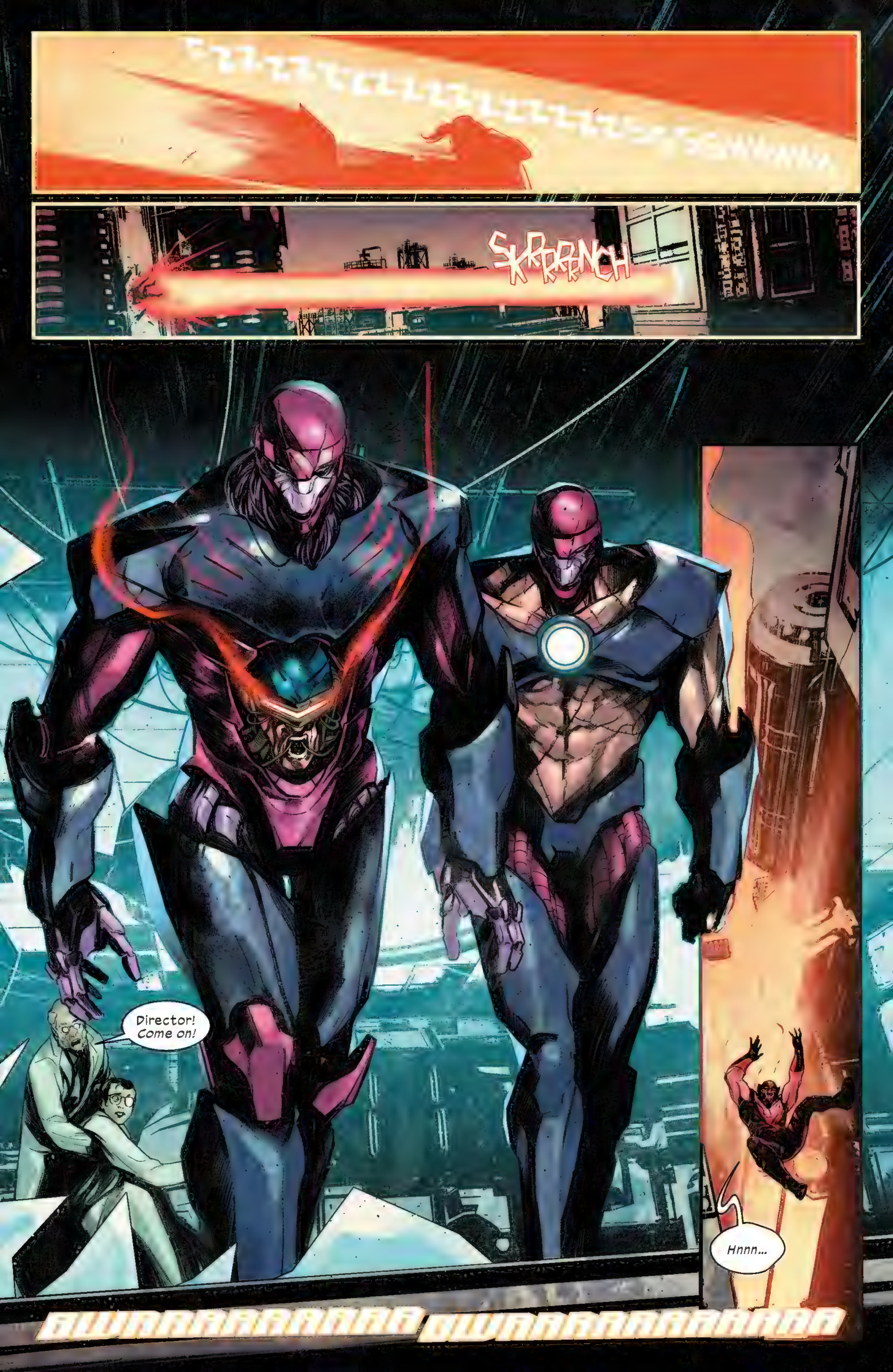

"...we have received intelligence that mutants have been captured and brought to the *'Master Mold'*-- the central Sentinel manufacturing and testing site.
"This intelligence suggests that Directorate X are finding ways to biologically meld a mutant to a Sentinel Unit. They are calling these abominations *'X-S' Units."*
We do not know how many mutants were taken or how many have been tested on. *Not yet.* But we will save who we can and ensure that *atrocities* like these never happen again.
"The secure facility is almost completely automated, operating with a skeleton crew for one reason: It is a *trap.* A gamma bomb lives in its heart to destroy its secrets and any intruders lucky enough to survive entry.
"It's quite brilliant, really. *I designed it myself."*
We will have five minutes once the alarm is tripped to locate the captured mutants before the facility self-destructs. It won't fully dismantle their Sentinel program...

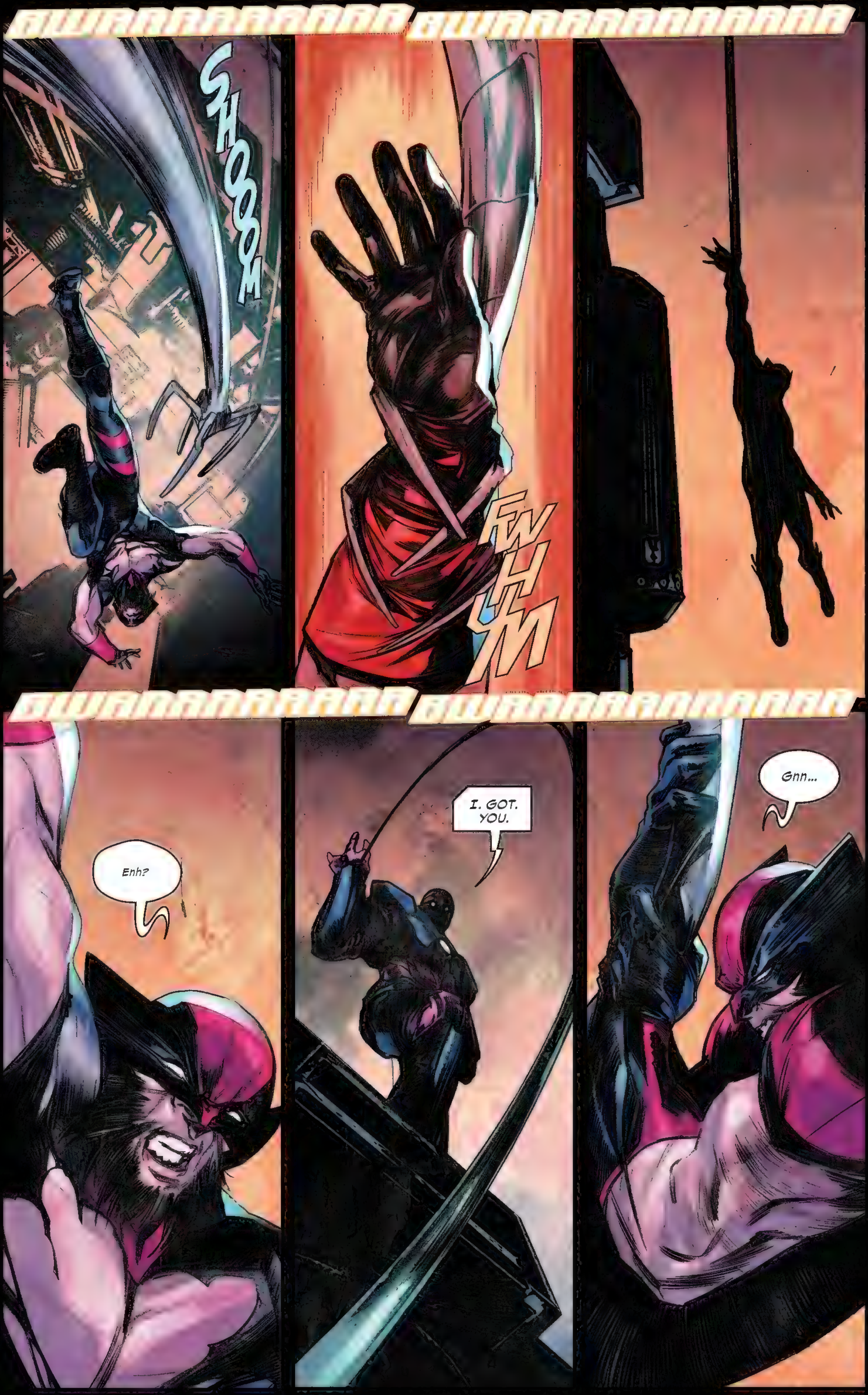

"...but it will make them hurt."
CHOOOOM
SNIKT
SNIKT
ARGHHHHHH--

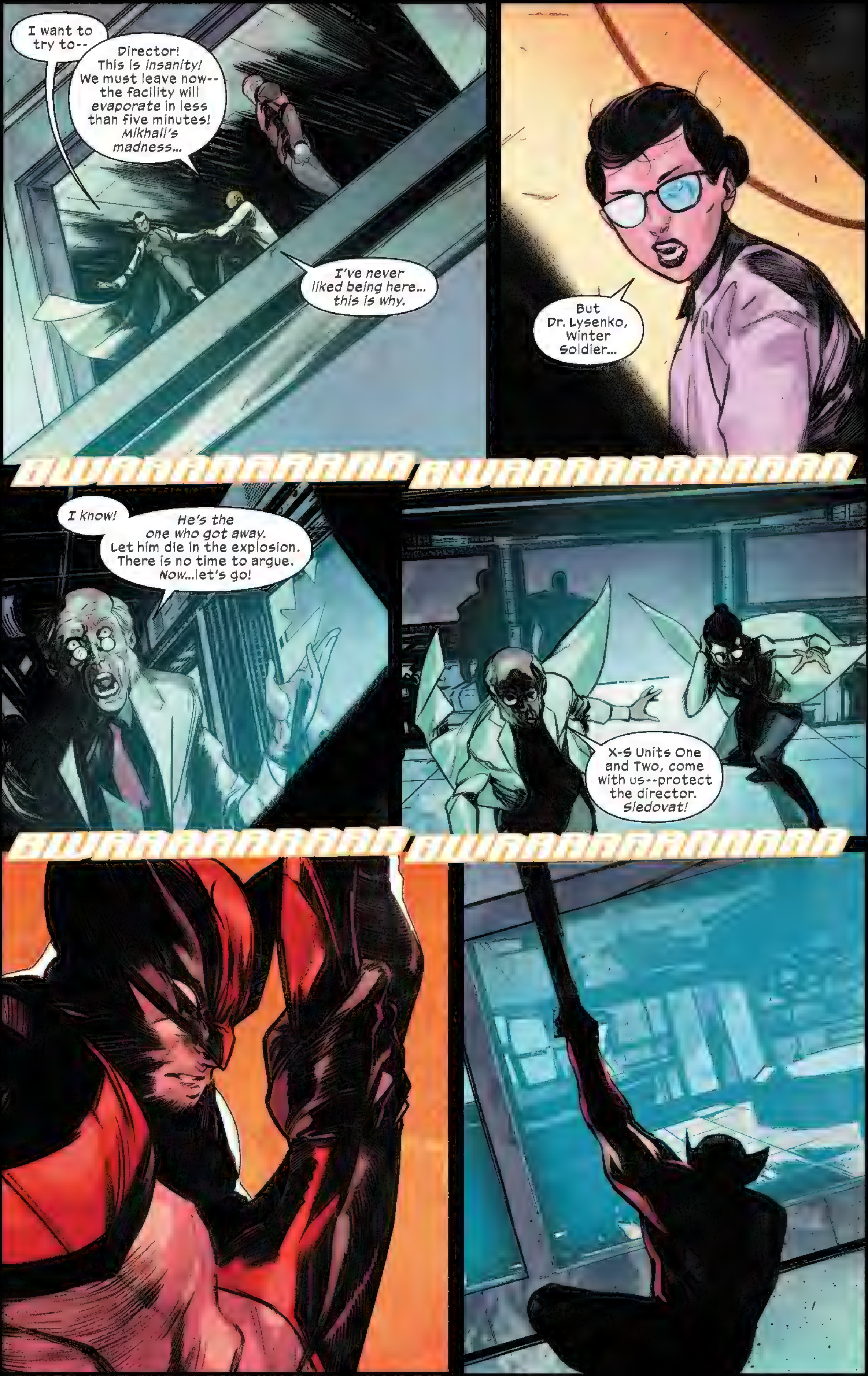

Activate the alarm!
CHAK

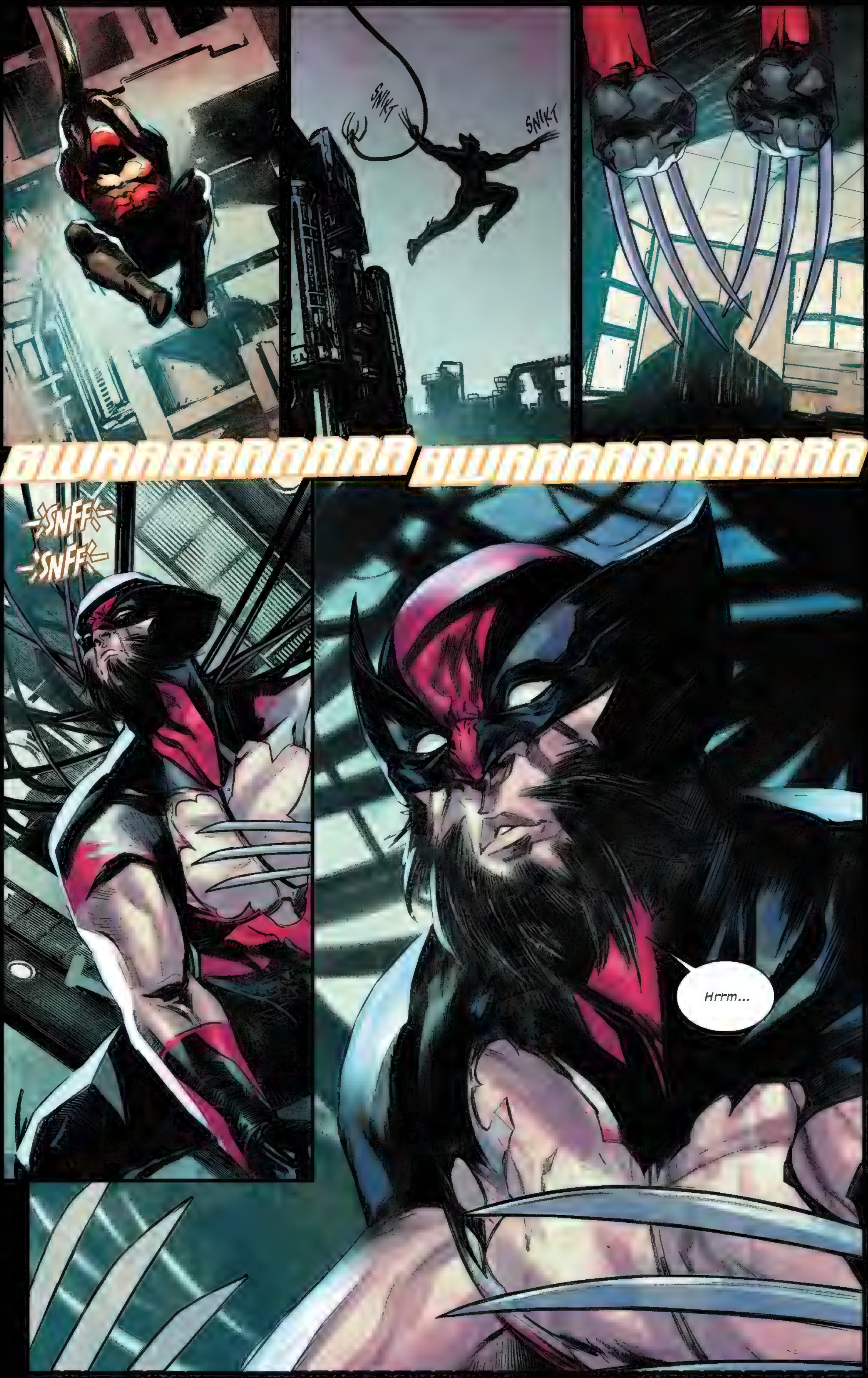

BWAAAAAAAAR BWAAAAAAAAAAAR
This is my worst nightmare...
Intruders... we are under *attack*. We must evacuate, Director. Quickly...
What's happening...?
BWAAAAAAAAR BWAAAAAAAAAAAR
Dr. Lysenko, this is the most highly secure facility in the *world*. It must be a mistake. Override the self-destruct sequence, there's no way anyone could possibly--
BWAAAAAAAAAR BWAAAAAAAAAAR
Oh no.
BWAAAAAAAAAR BWAAAAAAAAAAR
BWAAAAAAAAAR
AAR

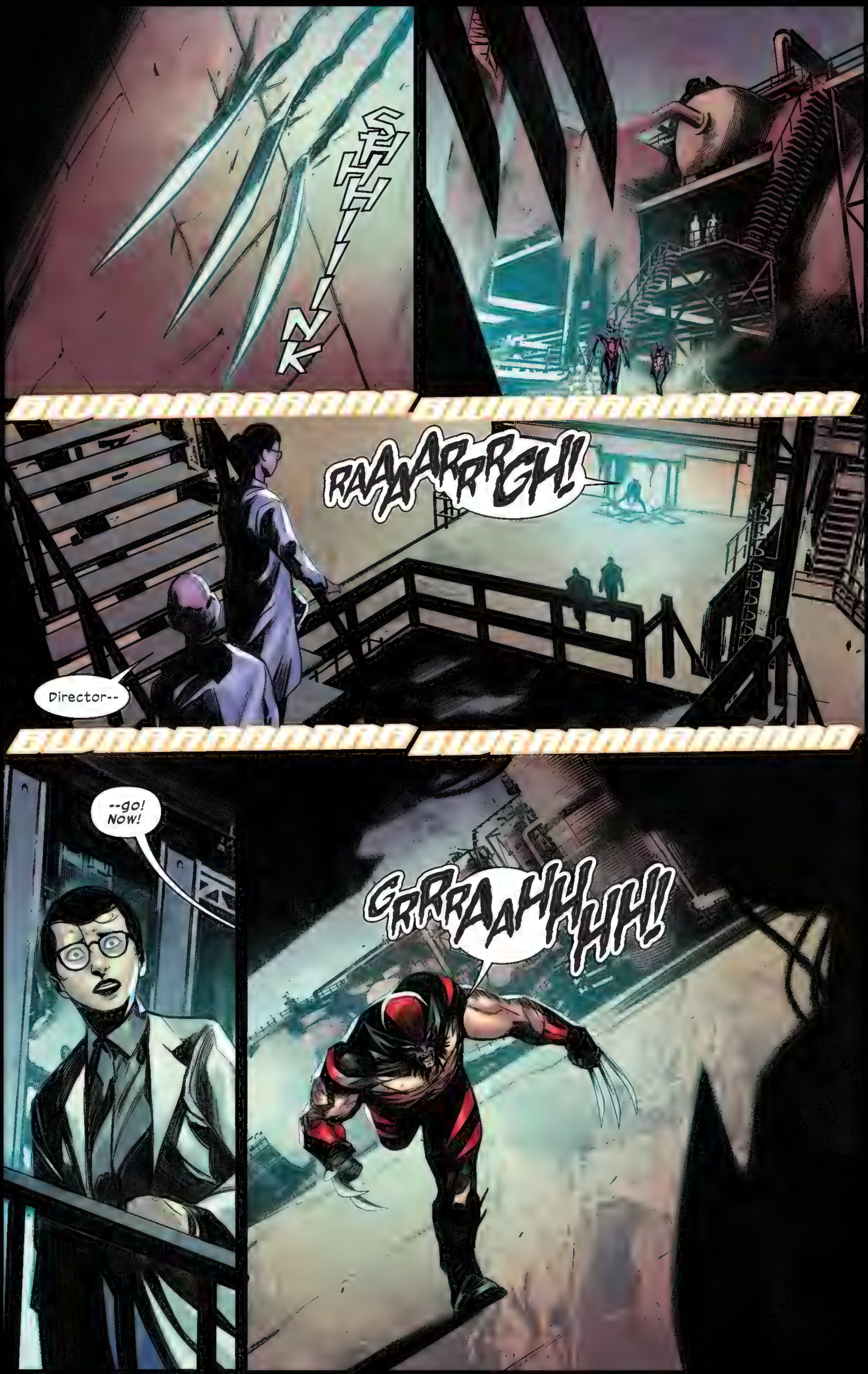

YOU!
BWAAAAAAAAA BWAAAAAAAAAAA
BWAAAAAAAAA BWAAAAAAAAAAA
SKRRRRITCH
Ah--!
BWAAAAAAAAA BWAAAAAAAAAAA
RAAAAHHH--

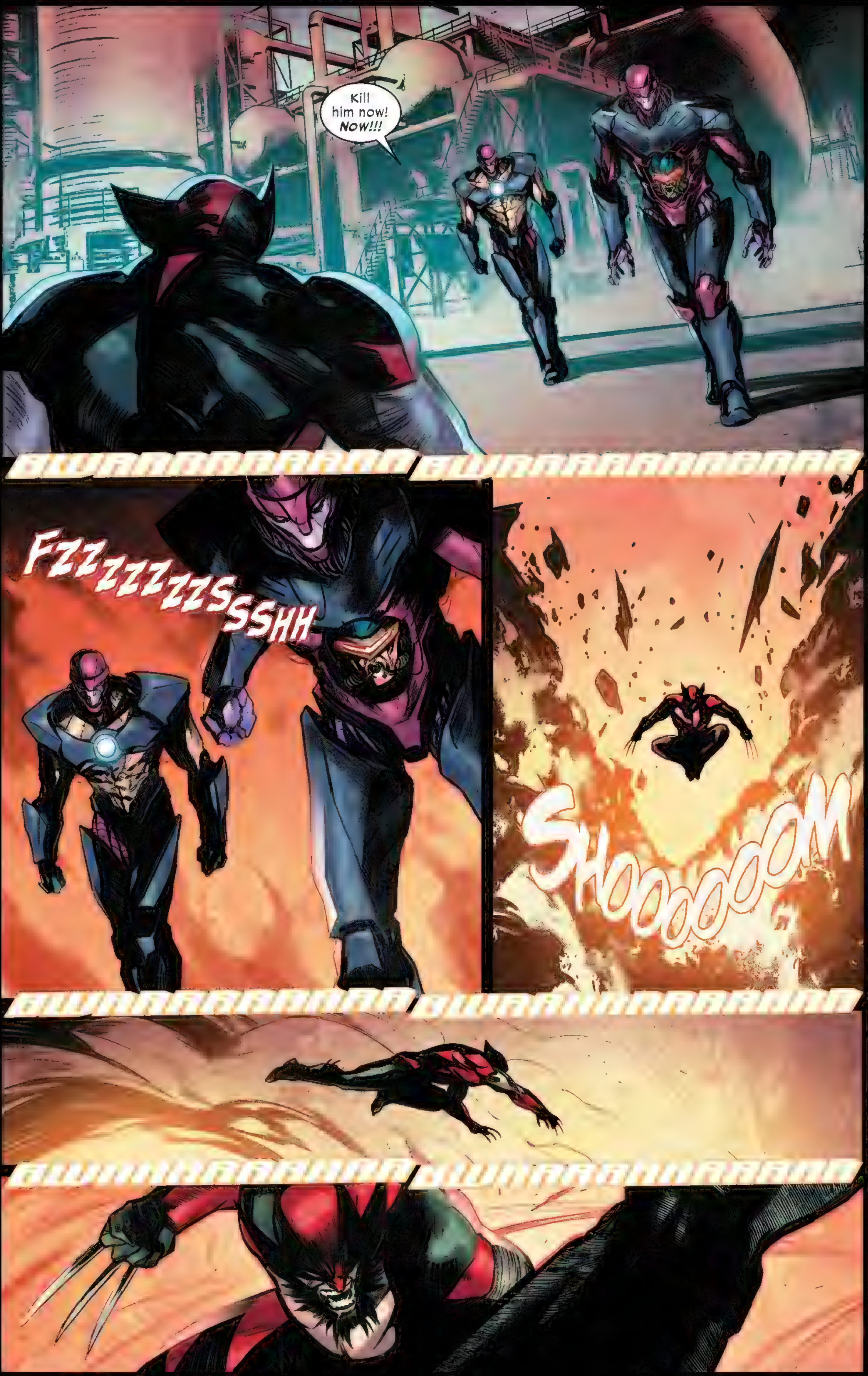

TZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZ-SCHWAAAA
SKRRRRRNCH
Director! Come on!
Hnnn...
BWAAAAAAAAAA BWAAAAAAAAAAAAA

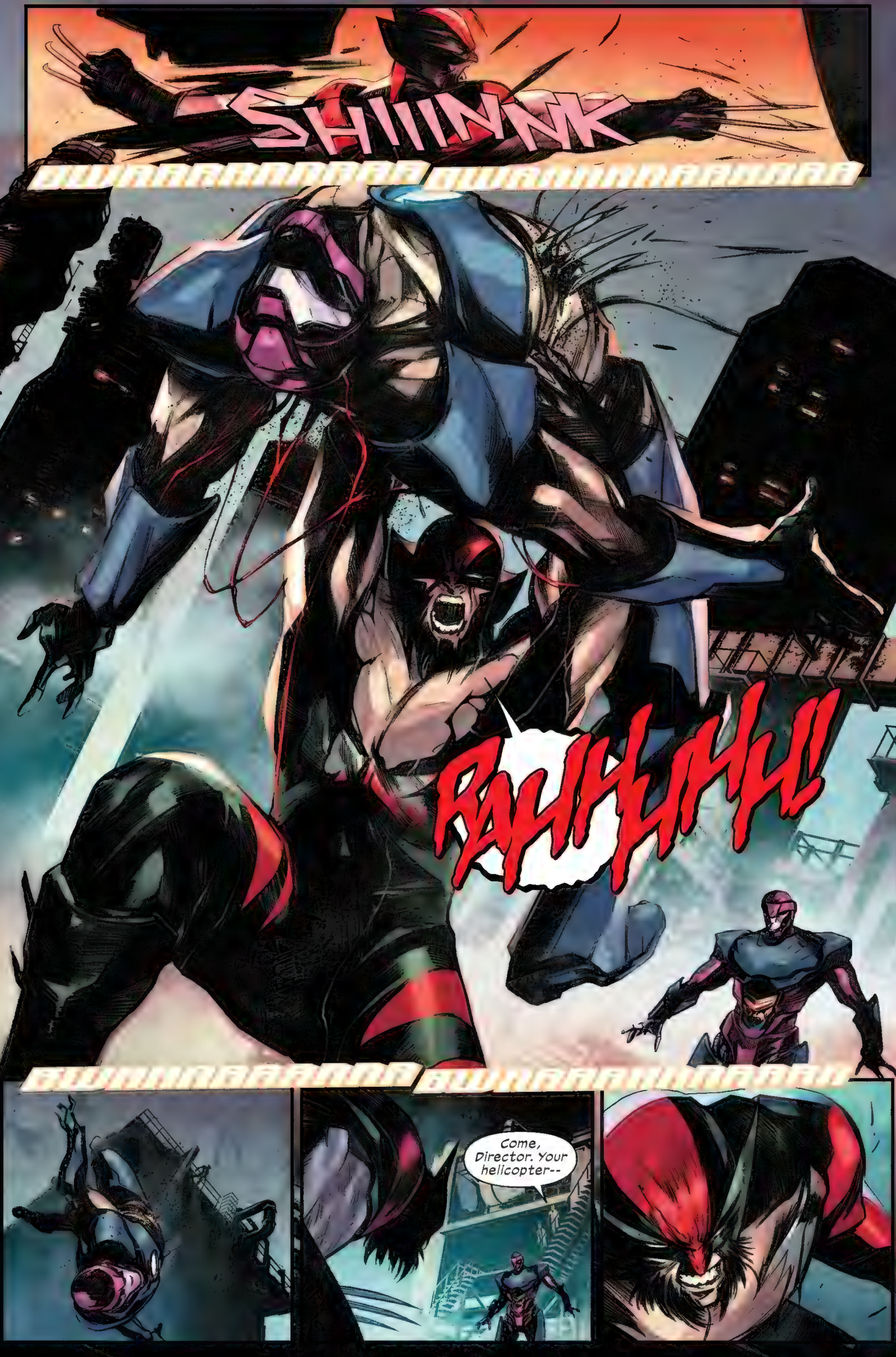

BWAAAAAAAAAA
BWAAAAAAAAAAAAA
SHOOOM
FWHUM
BWAAAAAAAAAA
BWAAAAAAAAAAAAA
Enh?
I. GOT. YOU.
Gnn...

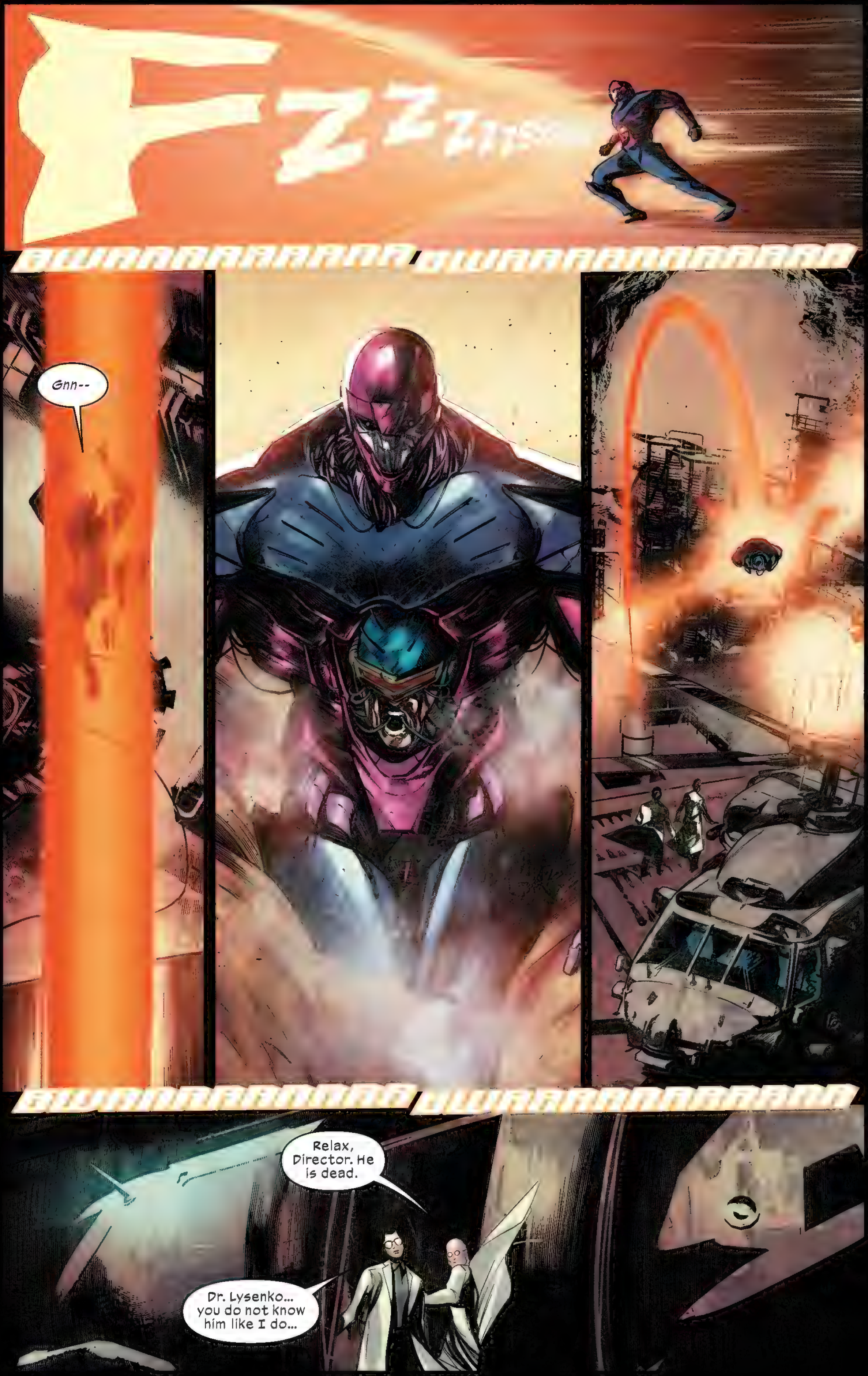

I want to try to--
Director! This is *insanity!* We must leave now--the facility will *evaporate* in less than five minutes! *Mikhail's madness...*
I've never liked being here... this is why.
But Dr. Lysenko, Winter Soldier...
BWAAAAAAAAAN
BWAAAAAAAAAAAAN
I know!
He's the one who got away. Let him die in the explosion. There is no time to argue. *Now...let's go!*
X-S Units One and Two, come with us--protect the director. *Sledovat!*
BWAAAAAAAAAN
BWAAAAAAAAAAAN

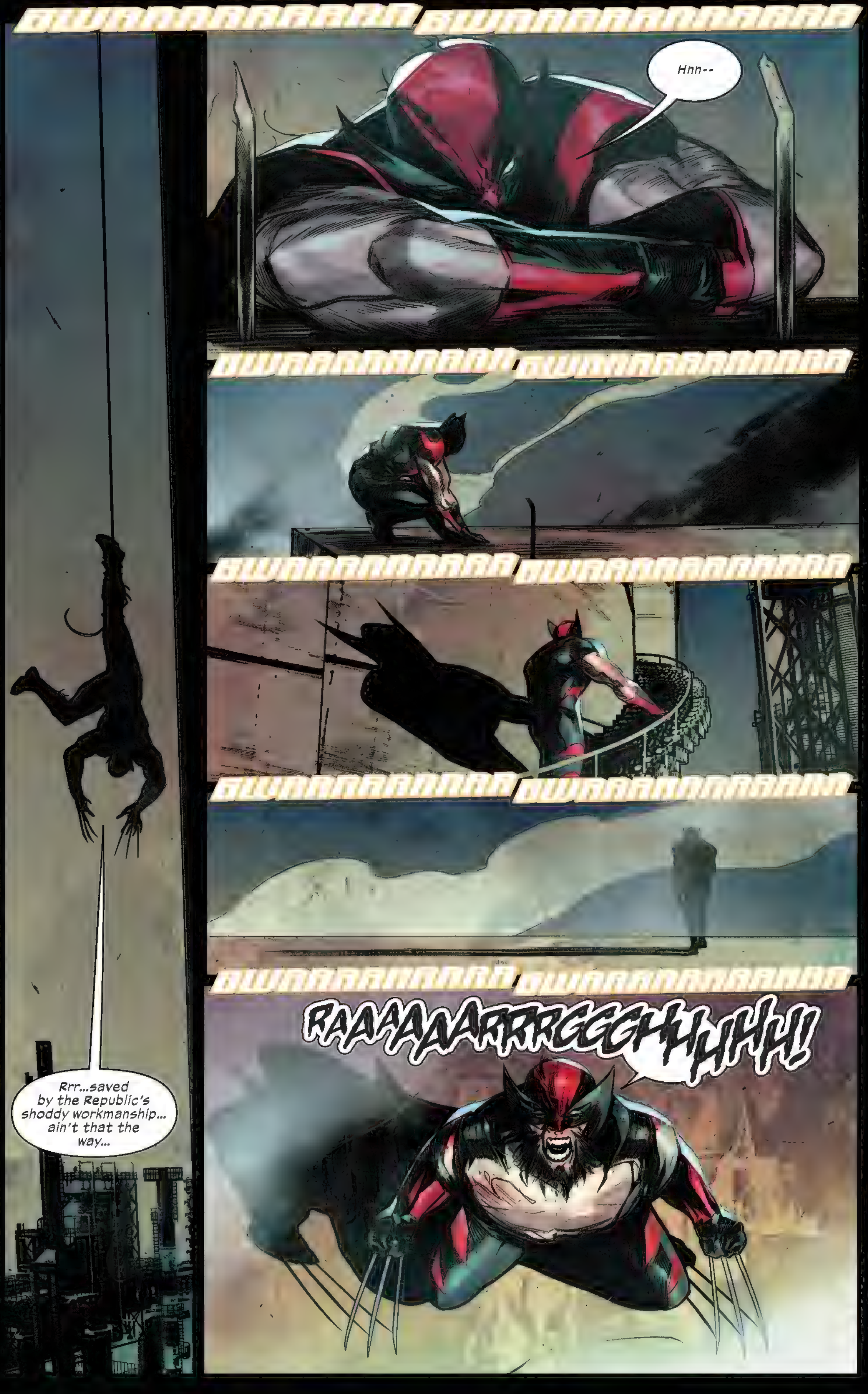

SNIKT
SNIKT
BWAAAAAAAAAA
BWAAAAAAAAAAAA
SNFF
SNFF
Hrrm...

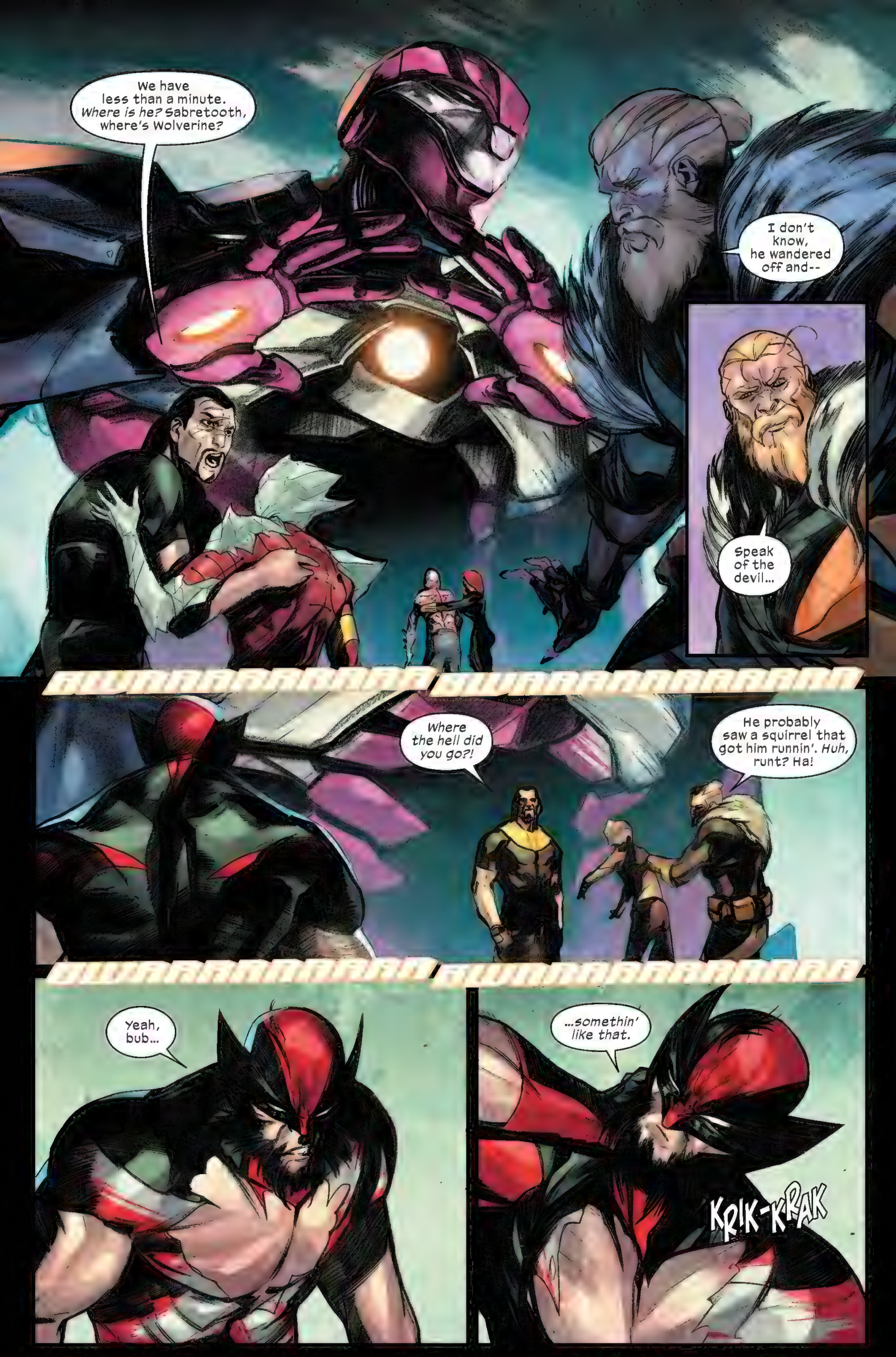

SHHHIIINK
BWAAAAAAAAA
BWAAAAAAAAAAA
RAAAARRRGH!
Director--
BWAAAAAAAAAA
BWAAAAAAAAAAA
--go! NOW!
GRRRRAAHHHHH!

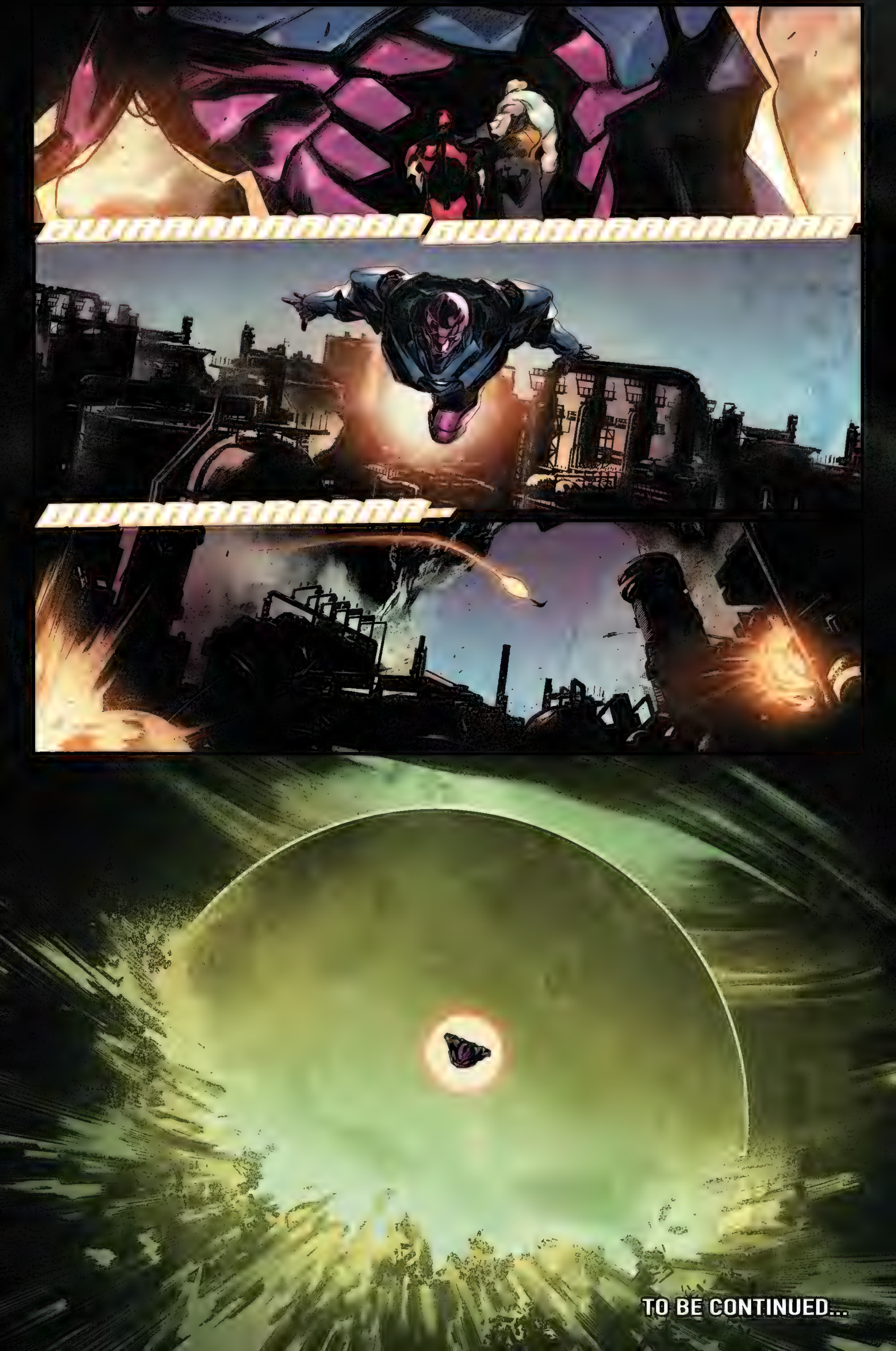

Kill him now! NOW!!!
BWRAAAAAAAAN BWRAAAAAAAAAAAAA
FZZZZZZSSHH
SHOOOOOOOM
BWRAAAAAAAAN BWRAAAAAAAAAAN
BWRAAAAAAAAN BWRAAAAAAAAAAN


SHIIINNK
BWARRRRRRRR BWARRRRRRRRR
RAAHHH!
BWARRRRRRRR BWARRRRRRRR!
Come, Director. Your helicopter--


FZZZzzt
BWAAAAAAAAAA BWAAAAAAAAAAAA
Gnn--
BWAAAAAAAAAA BWAAAAAAAAAAAA
Relax, Director. He is dead.
Dr. Lysenko... you do not know him like I do...

BWAAAAAAAAAN BWAAAAAAAAAAAAA
Hnn--
BWAAAAAAAAN BWAAAAAAAAAAA
BWAAAAAAAAAA BWAAAAAAAAAAAA
BWAAAAAAAAAA BWAAAAAAAAAAAN
BWAAAAAAAAAA BWAAAAAAAAAAAA
RAAAAAARRRGGGHHHHH!
Rrr...saved by the Republic's shoddy workmanship... ain't that the way...


We have less than a minute. *Where is he?* Sabretooth, where's Wolverine?
I don't know, he wandered off and--
Speak of the devil...
BWARRRRRRRRRRR
BWARRRRRRRRRRR
Where the hell did you go?!
He probably saw a squirrel that got him runnin'. *Huh, runt?* Ha!
BWARRRRRRRRRRR
BWARRRRRRRRRRR
Yeah, bub...
...somethin' like that.
KRIK-KRAK


BWAAAAAAAAAA
BWAAAAAAAAAAAAA
BWAAAAAAAAAA-

TO BE CONTINUED...

DENIED

DIRECTORATE X

A. Prostovich, Director
Directorate X
Kremlin
Moscow, Eurasian Republic

Director Prostovich,

Regarding our last conversation, I must apologize for my emotional reaction to your words. As I have explained, or tried to explain, it was not you who I took umbrage with, it was, in fact, the leaders themselves. Leader Mikhail built his Master Mold facility with a bomb at its heart. So, in essence, my qualm is with *him*. This facility is impressive; that much is true. However, it has the stench of death about it, and I cannot find rest within its walls at any hour, day or night. I try to do my work and, yes, I *do* my work well. But I find my concentration drifting lately due to the concern I have for the core of this facility. Yes, it is a deterrent, and a good one—no sane man would wish to break into a facility that would promise to kill you minutes later. He kept employment low so that very few knew its secrets. He was careful. I applaud his attention to detail. Unfortunately, to be a human being is to have a human being's feelings. I am not made of iron, Director.

I regret to write you a letter in such a manner, but I must speak my mind on this matter—I think it is necessary for me. I have a sneaking suspicion that this facility will be the death of me. I hope that I am wrong, of course. Who wants their place of work to be a death trap? But unfortunately, these thoughts encroach on my mind every single day.

Despite this, I know that the Directorate needs me to create these strange technological chimeras. The "X-S." I understand its importance to the stability of the Republic in this fraught time. I will continue the work I have been tasked to do. I think, after the years we have worked in close proximity of each other, that you would know I am an honorable and trustworthy person. My duty is to the homeland first. It always has been, it always will be.

But I can do that work elsewhere. Respectfully, I wish to be considered for a transfer to a different, less volatile facility. There are other scientists who are my equal, if not my better, who can fulfill the duties of the Master Mold facility. But I cannot continue to be that man.

If there is no change by this time next month, I will then be forced to remove myself from this department and look for work elsewhere in the Republic.

Yours,

Chief Scientist, Sentinel Program
M.M. Facility
Undisclosed, Eurasian Republic

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NEXT

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CONDON
LINS | VALENZA

ON SALE IN **OCTOBER**

ON SALE THIS MONTH

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& **DAVID MESSINA**

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ULTIMATE BLACK PANTHER #20

BY **BRYAN HILL** &
STEFANO CASELLI

MARVEL
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X-MEN

ULTIMATE X-MEN #19

BY **PEACH MOMOKO**

MARVEL
THE
ULTIMATES

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BY **DENIZ CAMP**
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ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN: INCURSION #4

BY **DENIZ CAMP**, **CODY ZIGLAR**
& **JONAS SCHARF**

MARVEL
ULTIMATE
HAWKEYE

ULTIMATE HAWKEYE #1

BY **DENIZ CAMP**, **TABOO**, **B. EARL**,
JUAN FRIGERI & **MICHAEL STA. MARIA**

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU! EMAIL US AT **ULTIMATEOFFICE@MARVEL.COM** AND MARK YOUR LETTERS **"OKAY TO PRINT"**!

22

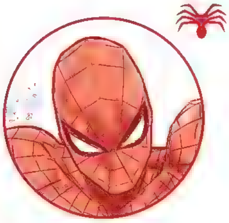
Twenty years ago, **THE MAKER** prevented a radioactive spider from biting a young **PETER PARKER**. He likewise prevented the creation of any other super heroes and formed a secret council to rule the world from the shadows.

Twenty-one months ago, **TONY STARK** sent Peter that same radioactive spider along with a picotech suit. Since then, Peter has used the incredible powers granted by the spider's bite to fight crime alongside **GREEN GOBLIN**, A.K.A. **HARRY OSBORN**, co-C.E.O. of **OSCORP**.

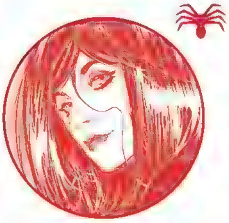
KINGPIN tasked his **SINISTER SIX** with capturing the duo, but the Sinister Six have fractured. Harry's wife, **GWEN STACY**, was one of five who shared the role of **MYSTERIO**—but after she declared war on Kingpin and his ministers, **MR. NEGATIVE** grew tired of their treachery and bombed the Mysterios' meeting room. **MOLE MAN** warned Peter that his identity was compromised, sending Peter and his family into hiding. And Peter's son, **RICHARD**, drove a wedge between his sort-of-girlfriend **BLACK CAT** and the rest of the Sinister Six...

ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN

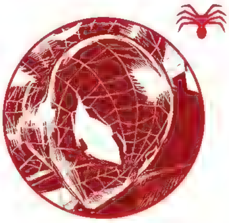
CAST:



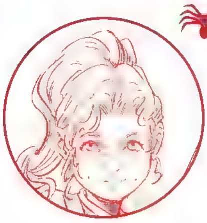
PETER PARKER
SPIDER-MAN



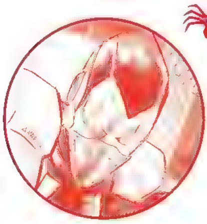
MJ WATSON-PARKER
PR GURU



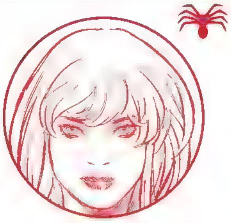
RICHARD PARKER
PETER AND MJ'S SON



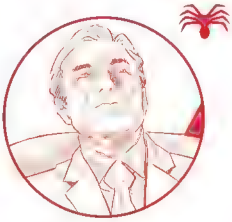
MAY PARKER
PETER AND MJ'S DAUGHTER



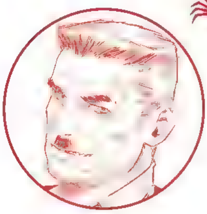
HARRY OSBORN
GREEN GOBLIN



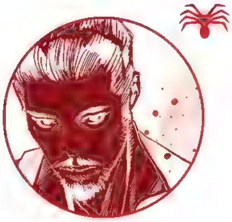
GWEN STACY
HARRY'S WIFE, MYSTERIO



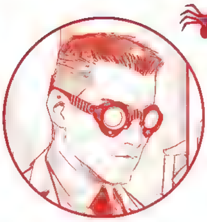
BEN PARKER
PETER'S UNCLE



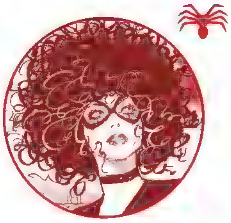
J. JONAH JAMESON
BEN'S BUSINESS PARTNER



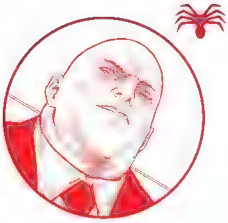
MR. NEGATIVE
ONE OF THE SINISTER SIX



OTTO OCTAVIUS
OSCORP SCIENTIST

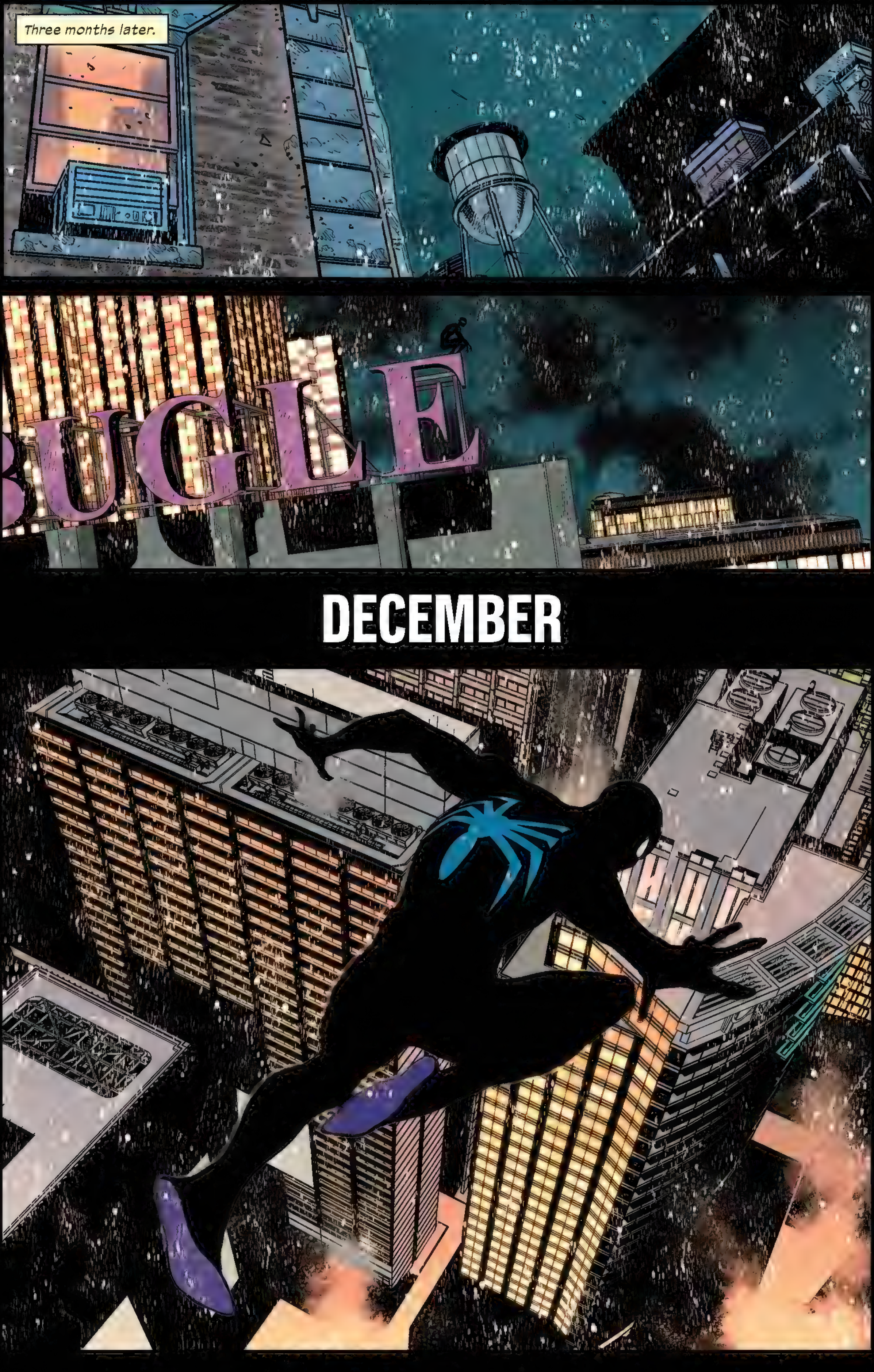


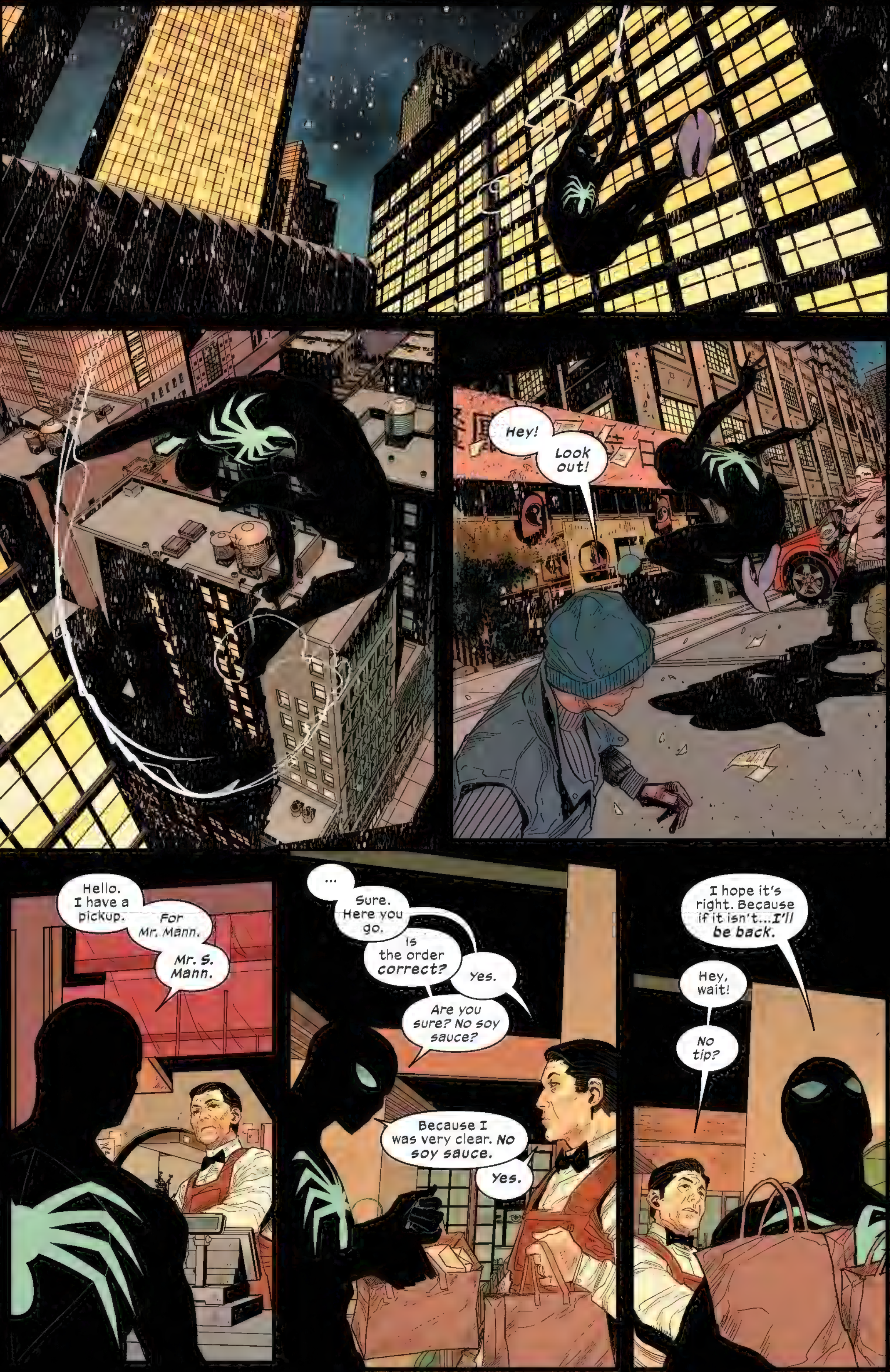
FELICIA HARDY
BLACK CAT

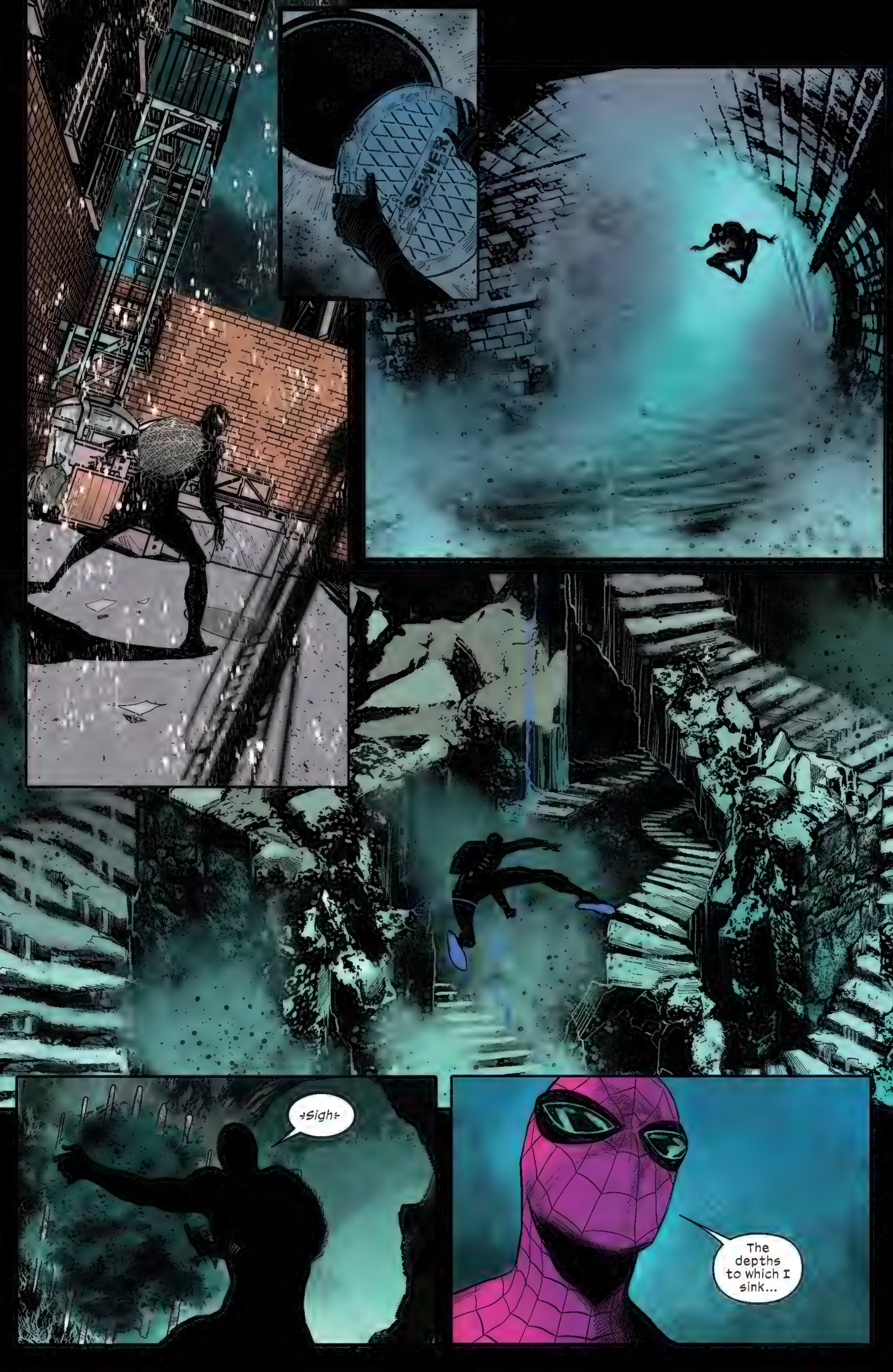


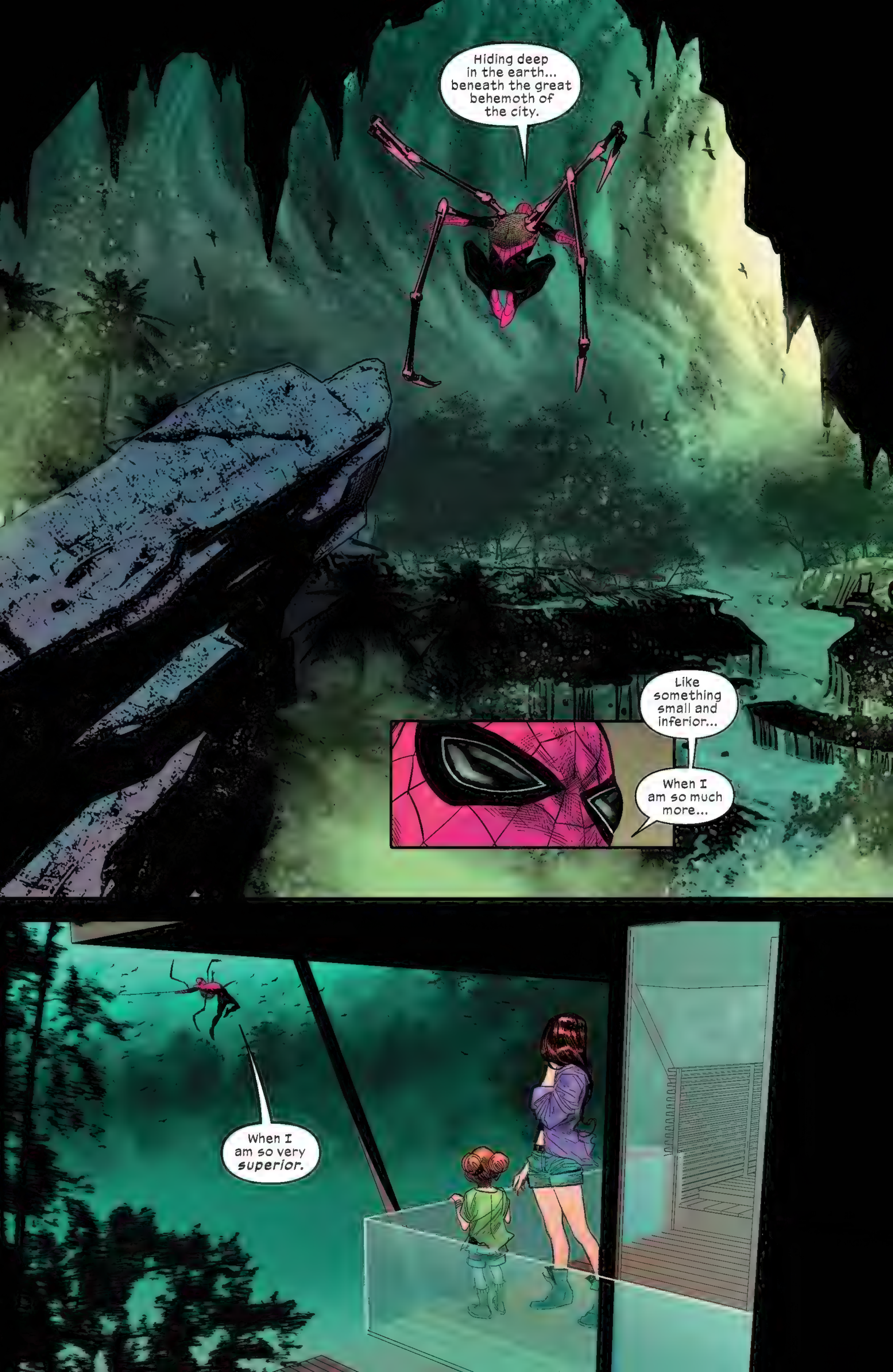
WILSON FISK
KINGPIN

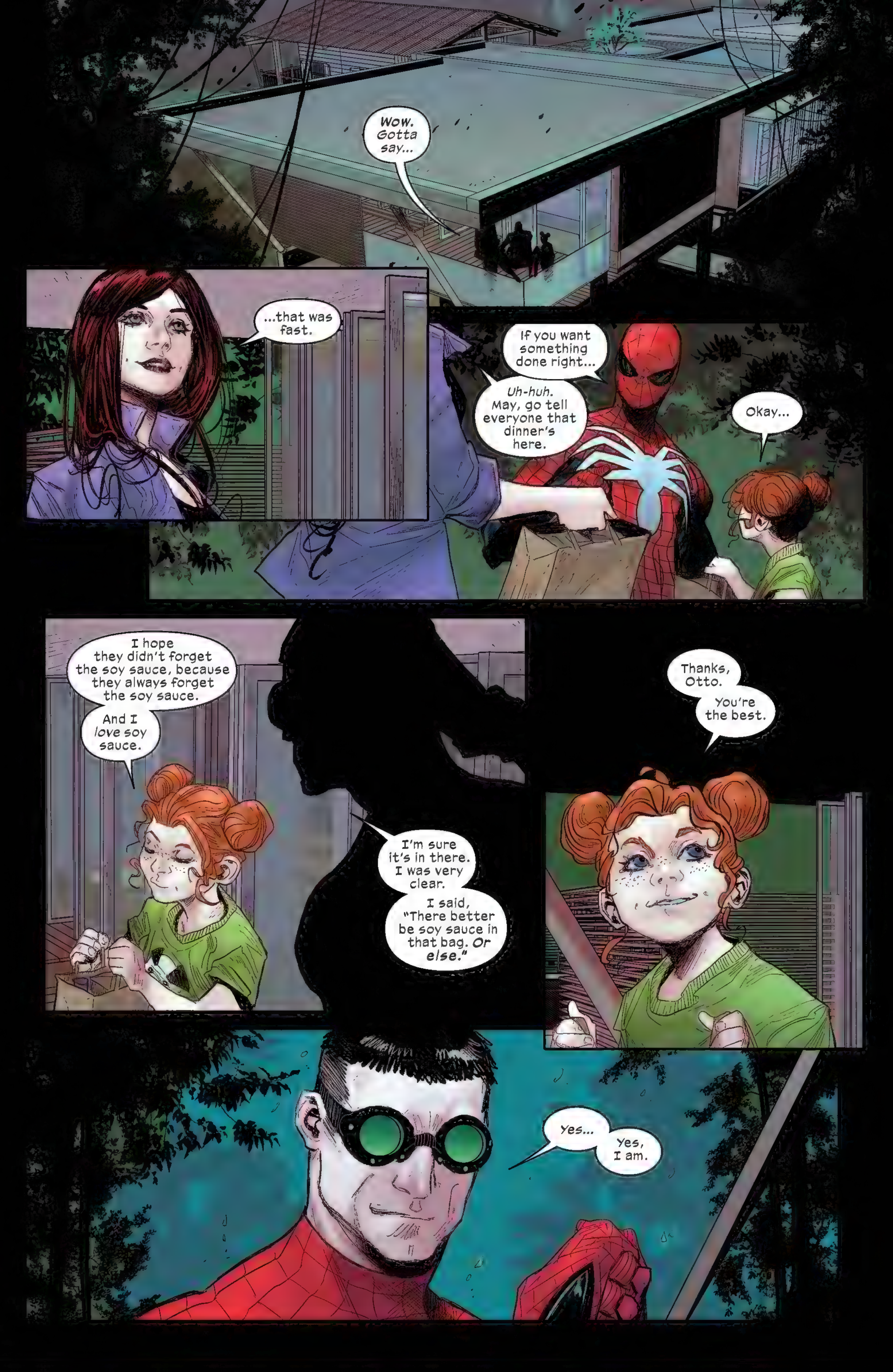
2025

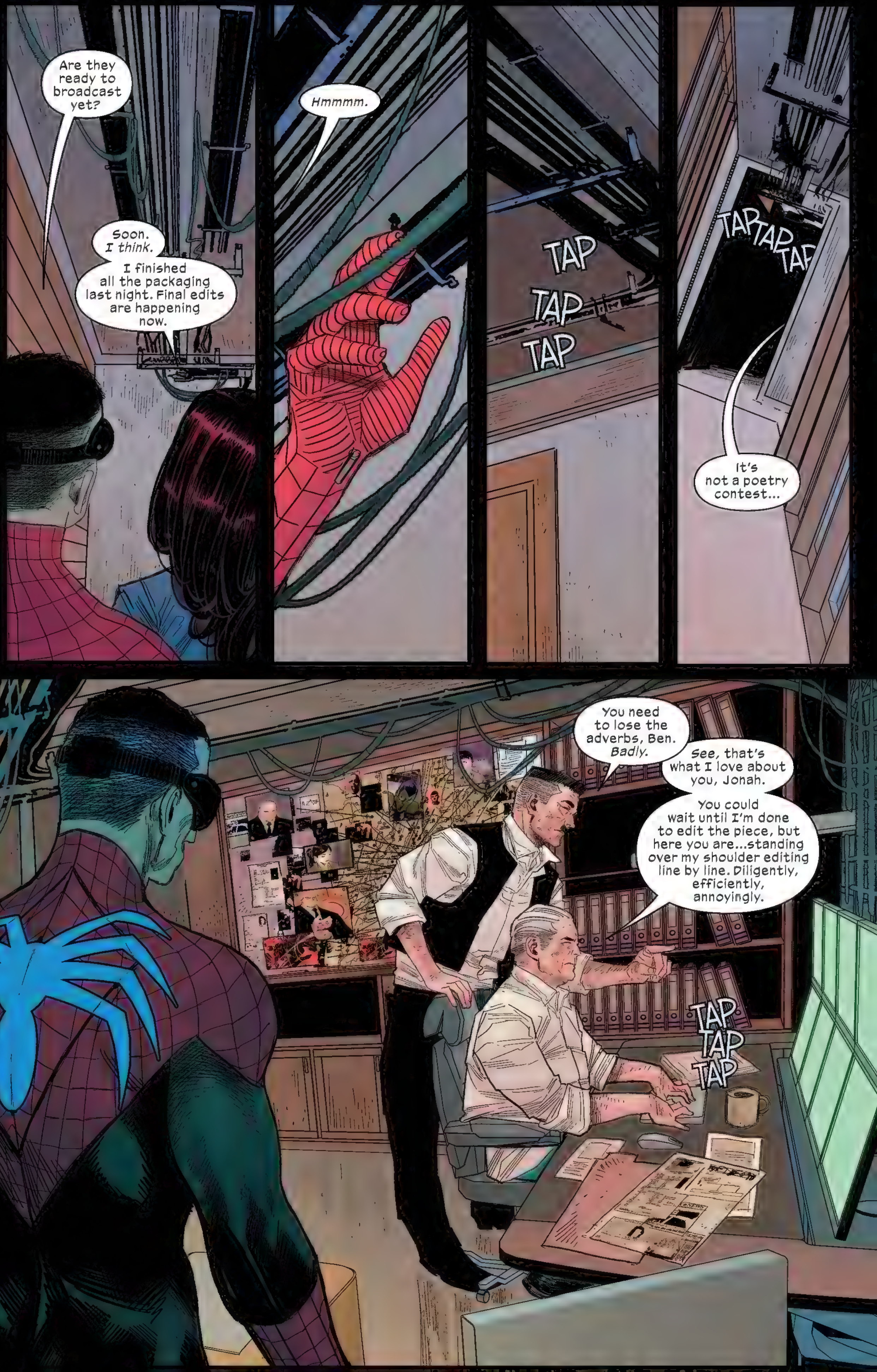

Three months later.
BUGLE
DECEMBER

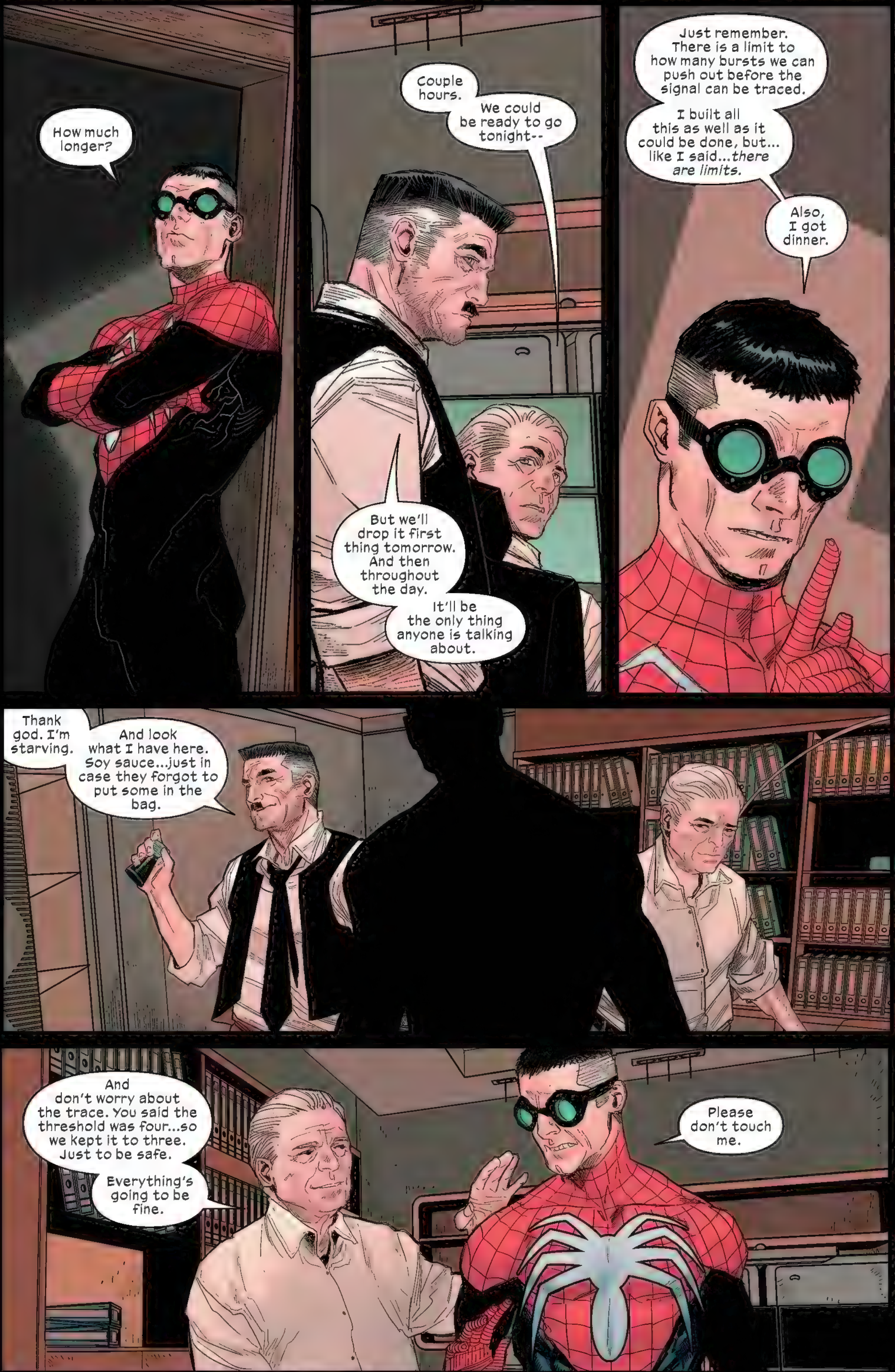

Hey!
Look out!
Hello. I have a pickup.
For Mr. Mann.
Mr. S. Mann.
...
Sure. Here you go.
Is the order *correct?*
Yes.
Are you sure? No soy sauce?
Because I was very clear. *No soy sauce.*
Yes.
I hope it's right. Because if it isn't... *I'll be back.*
Hey, wait!
No tip?

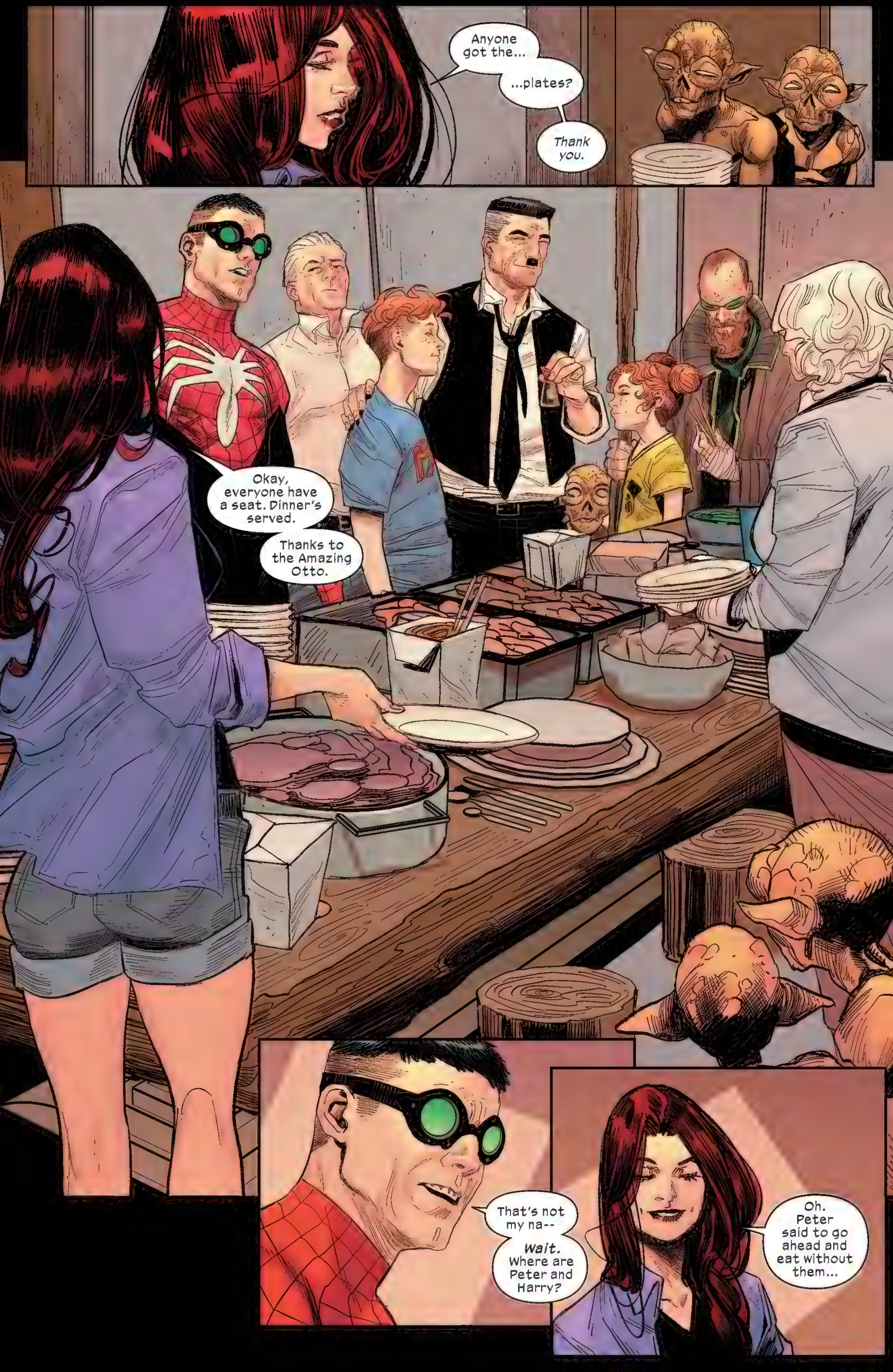

SEWER
Sigh
The depths to which I sink...

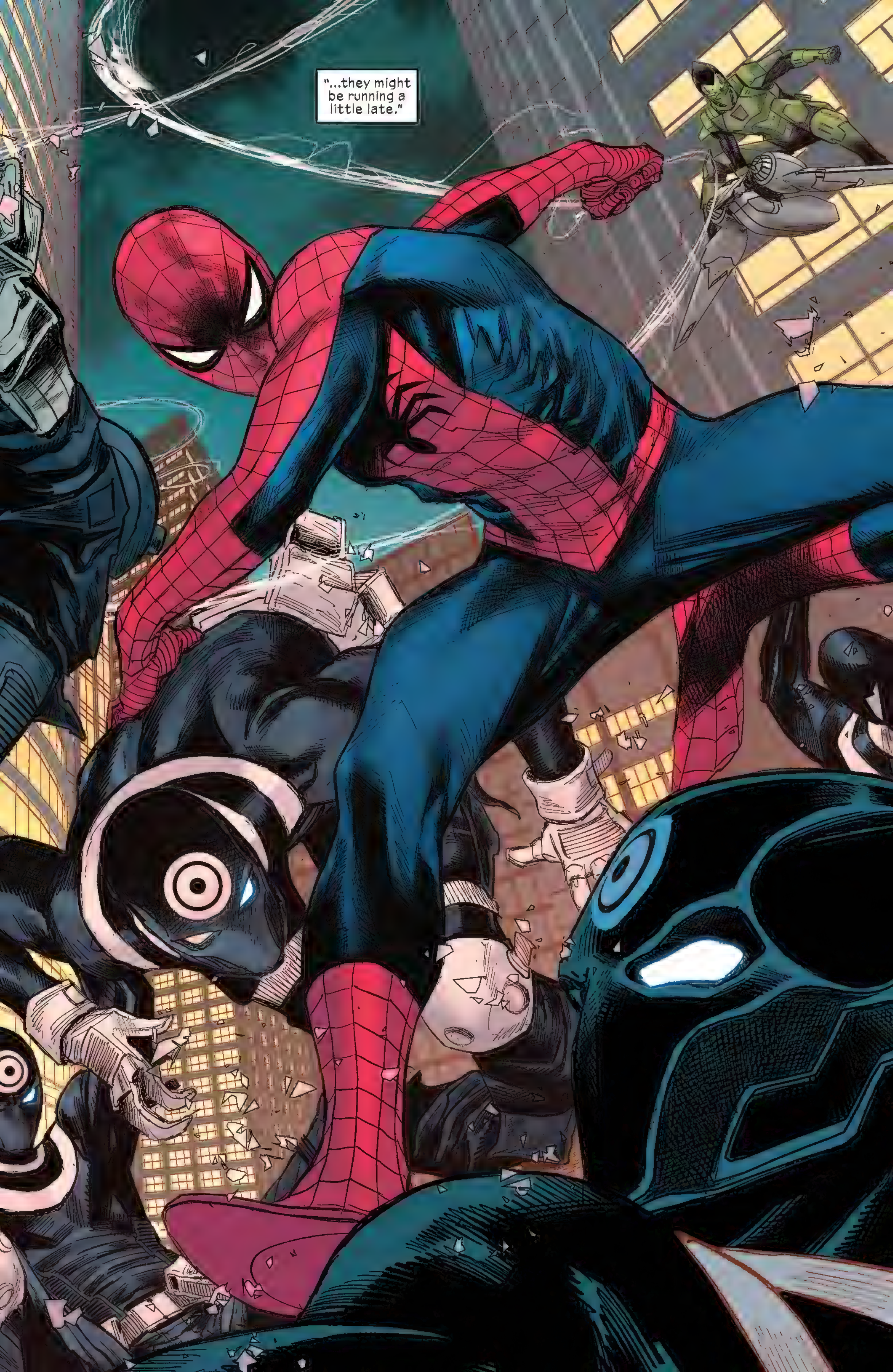

Hiding deep in the earth... beneath the great behemoth of the city.
Like something small and inferior...
When I am so much more...
When I am so very *superior.*

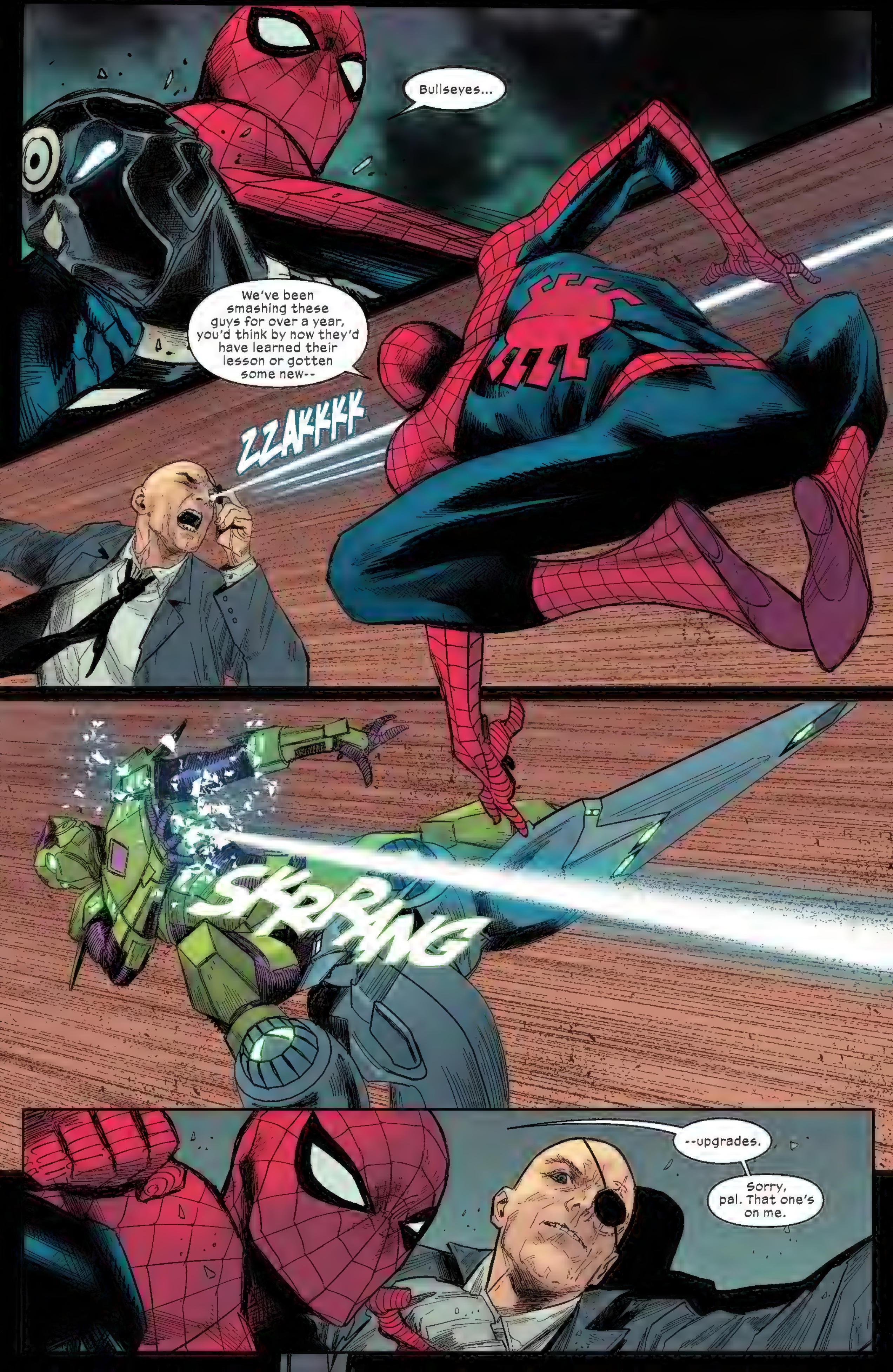

Wow. Gotta say...
...that was fast.
If you want something done right...
Uh-huh. May, go tell everyone that dinner's here.
Okay...
I hope they didn't forget the soy sauce, because they always forget the soy sauce.
And I *love* soy sauce.
I'm sure it's in there. I was very clear.
I said, "There better be soy sauce in that bag. *Or else.*"
Thanks, Otto.
You're the best.
Yes...
Yes, I am.

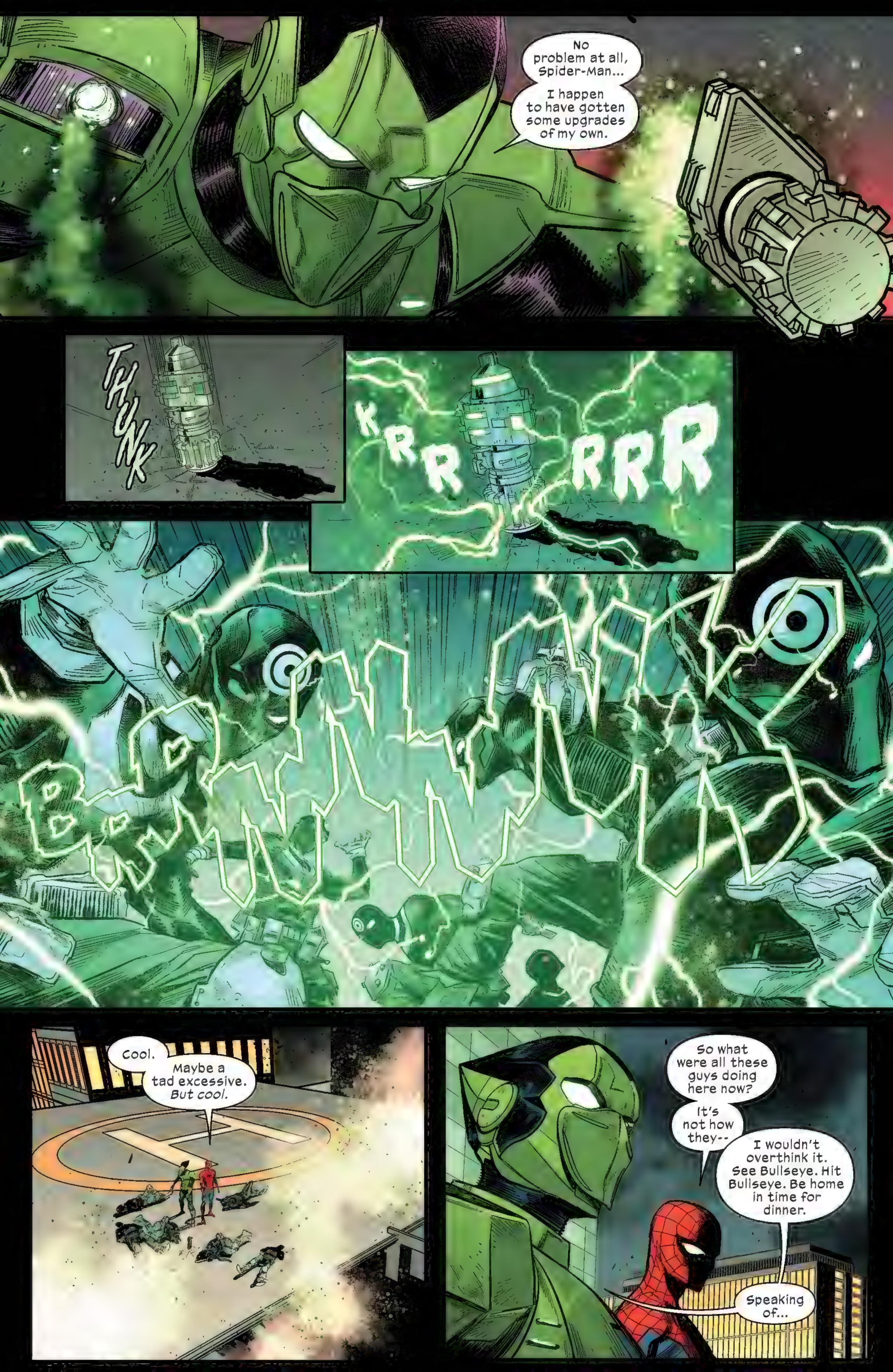

Are they ready to broadcast yet?
Soon. *I think.*
I finished all the packaging last night. Final edits are happening now.
Hmmmm.
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP TAP TAP
It's not a poetry contest...
You need to lose the adverbs, Ben. *Badly.*
See, that's what I love about you, Jonah.
You could wait until I'm done to edit the piece, but here you are...standing over my shoulder editing line by line. Diligently, efficiently, annoyingly.
TAP
TAP
TAP

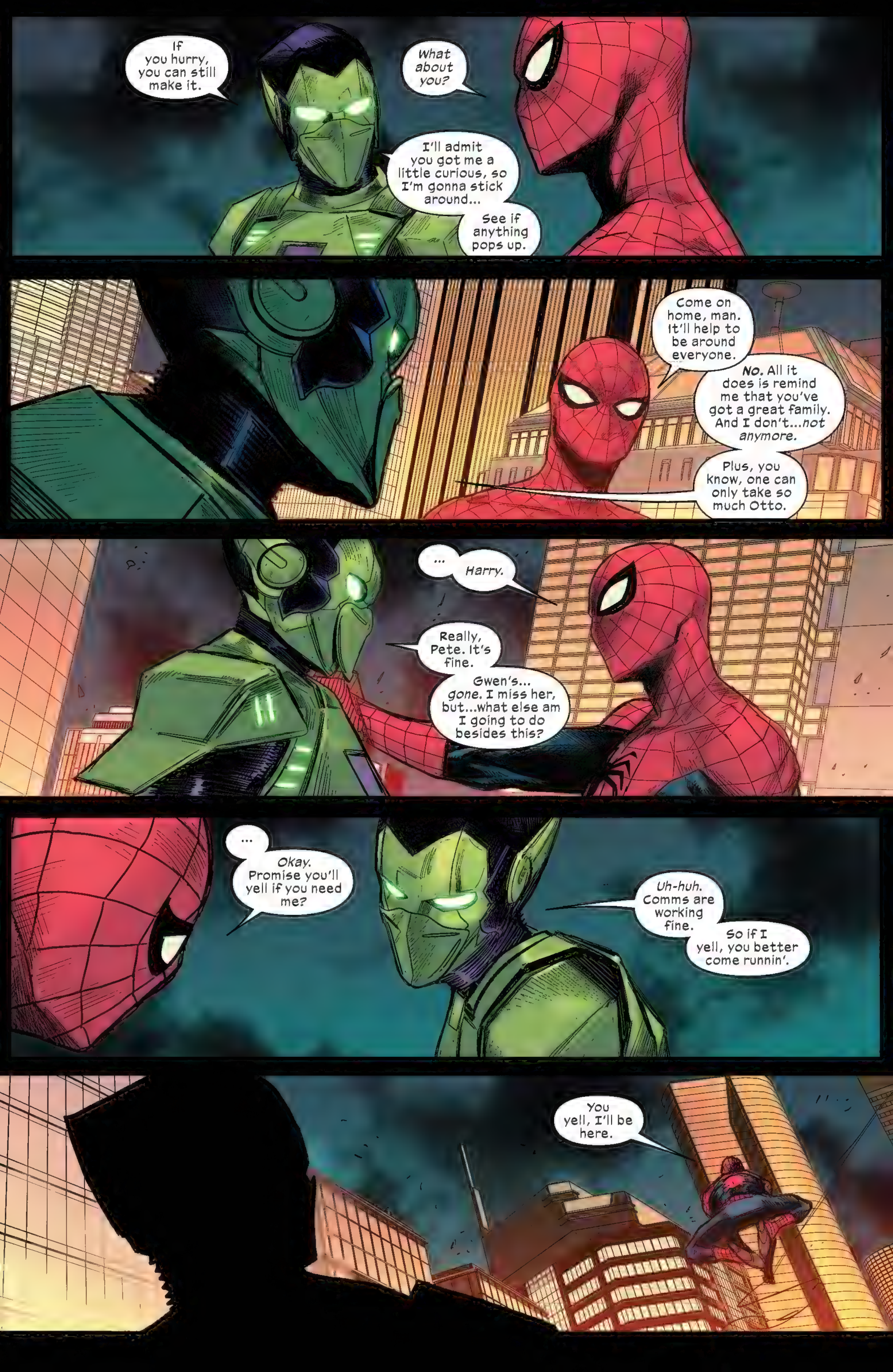

How much longer?
Couple hours.
We could be ready to go tonight--
But we'll drop it first thing tomorrow. And then throughout the day.
It'll be the only thing anyone is talking about.
Just remember. There is a limit to how many bursts we can push out before the signal can be traced.
I built all this as well as it could be done, but... like I said...*there are limits.*
Also, I got dinner.
Thank god. I'm starving.
And look what I have here. Soy sauce...just in case they forgot to put some in the bag.
And don't worry about the trace. You said the threshold was four...so we kept it to three. Just to be safe.
Everything's going to be fine.
Please don't touch me.

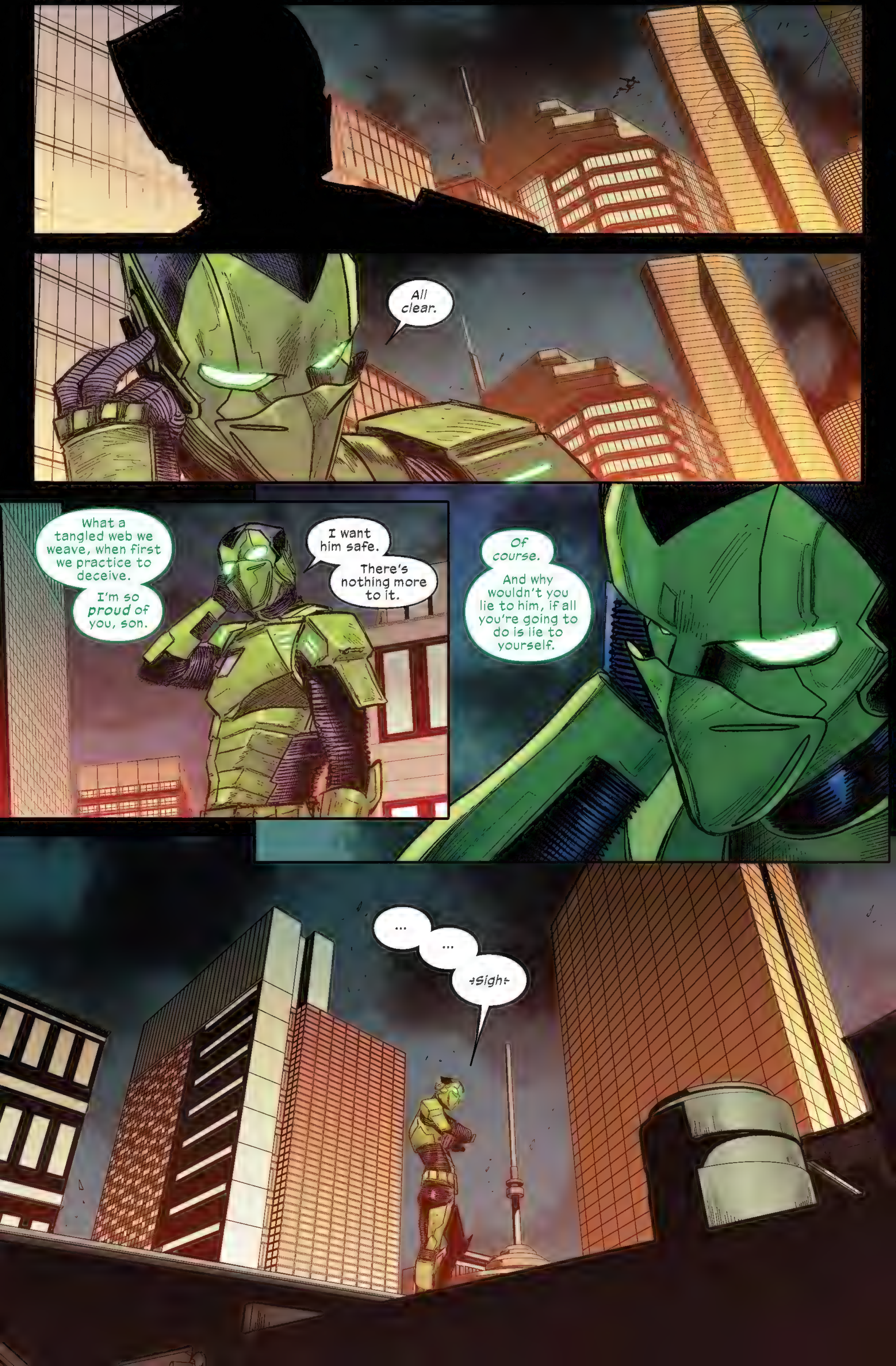

Anyone got the...
...plates?
Thank you.
Okay, everyone have a seat. Dinner's served.
Thanks to the Amazing Otto.
That's not my na--
Wait. Where are Peter and Harry?
Oh. Peter said to go ahead and eat without them...

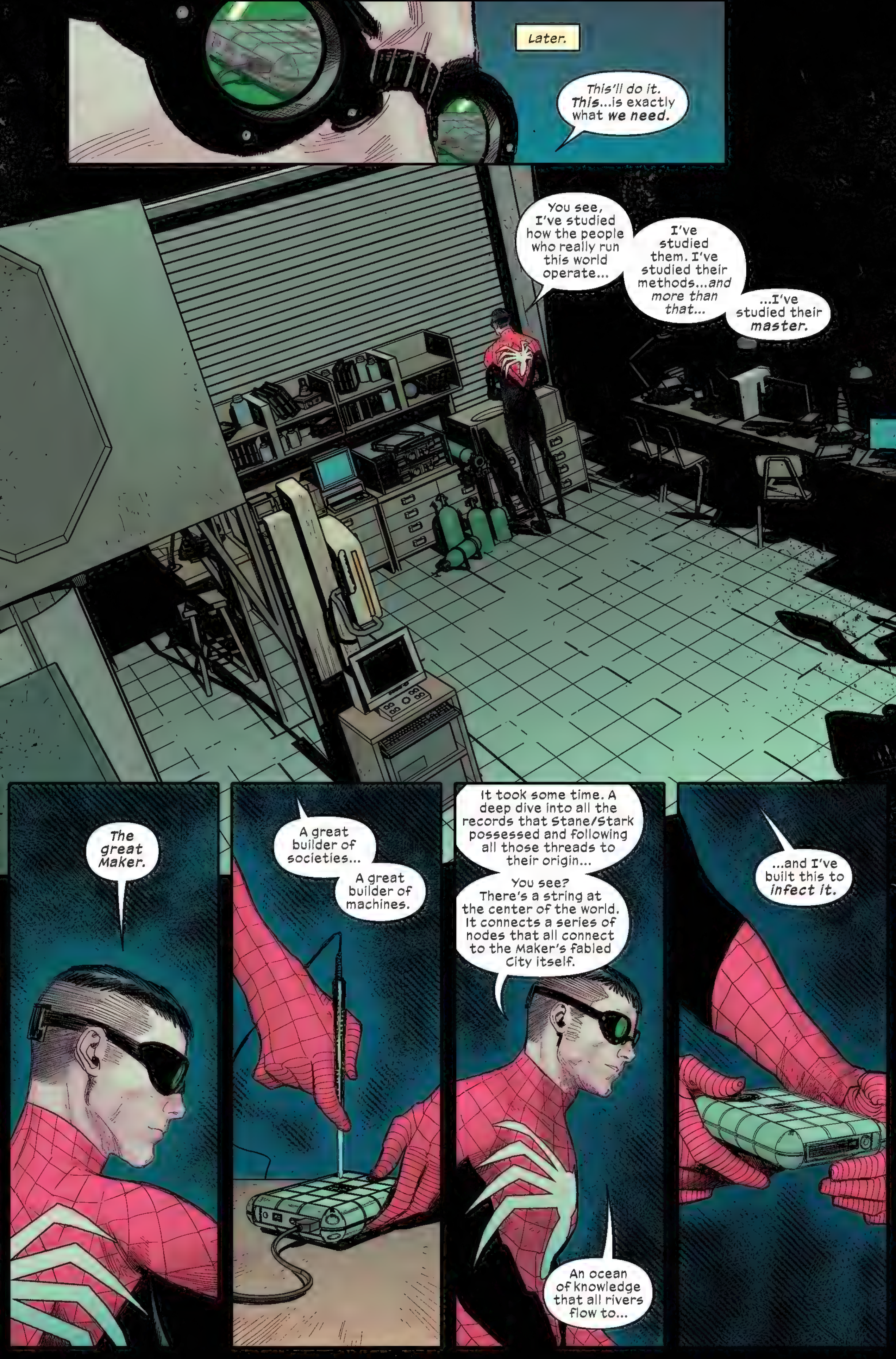

"...they might be running a little late."

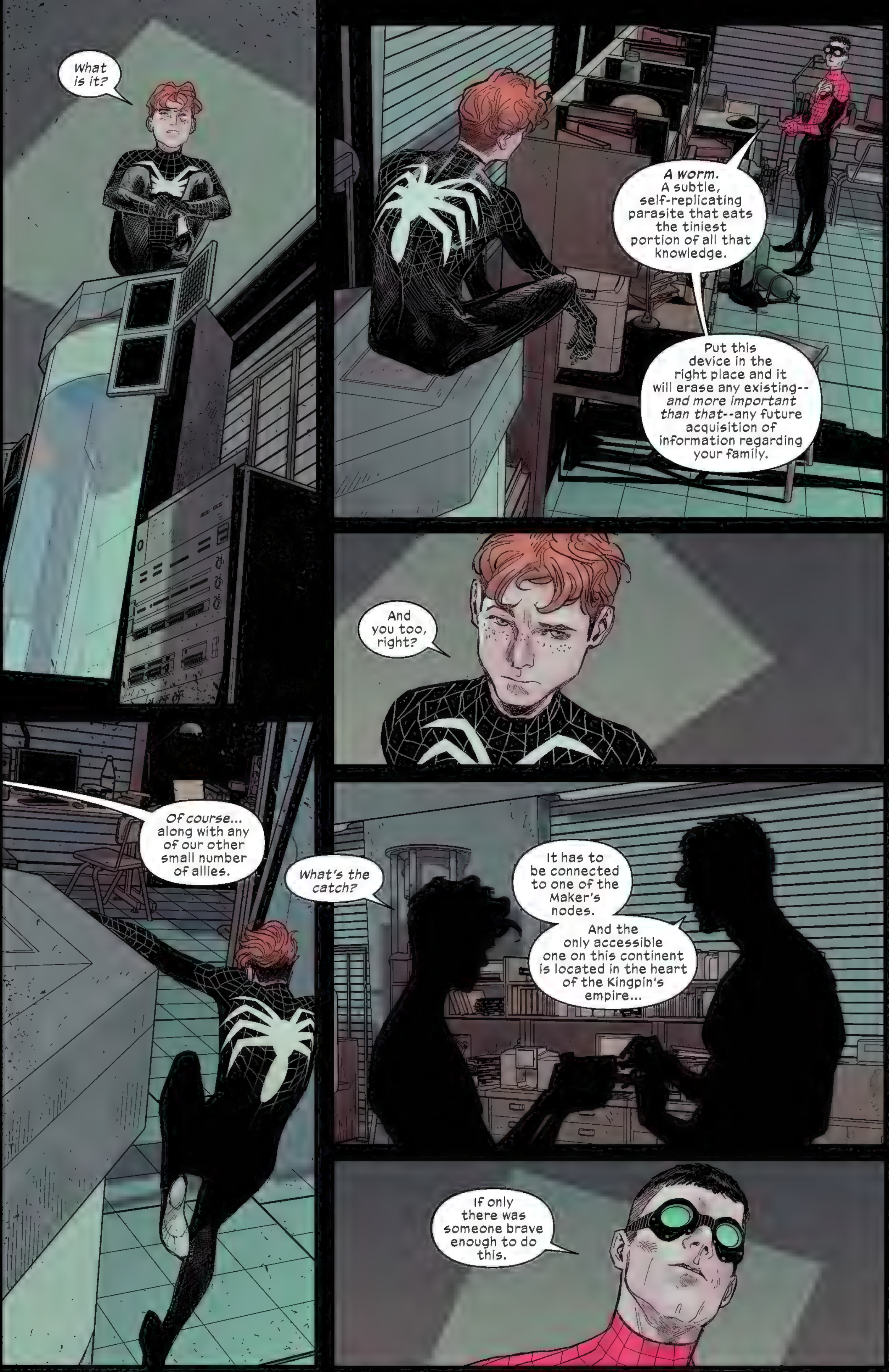

Bullseyes...
We've been smashing these guys for over a year, you'd think by now they'd have learned their lesson or gotten some new--
ZZAKKKK
SKRANG
--upgrades.
Sorry, pal. That one's on me.

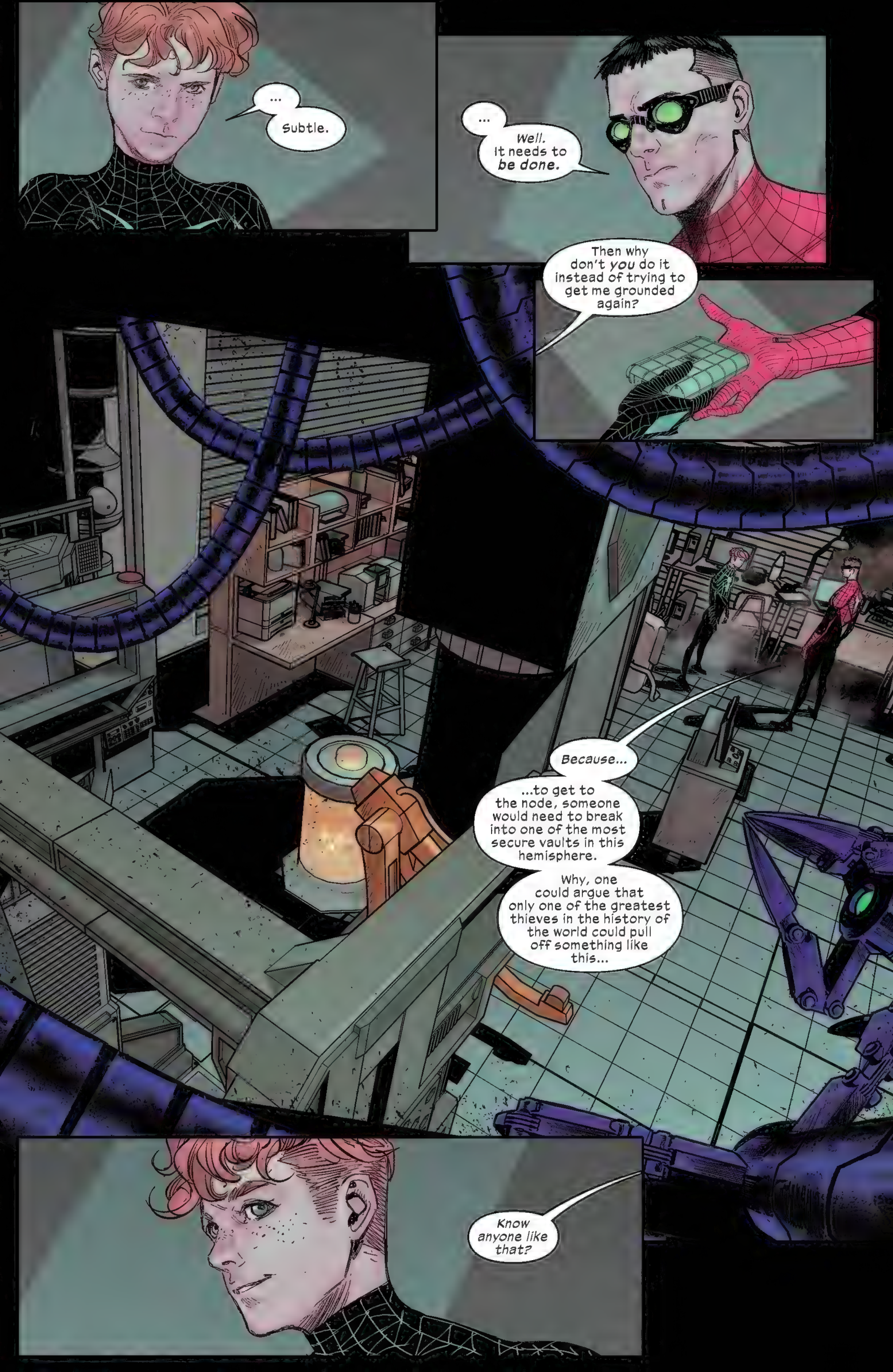

No problem at all, Spider-Man...
I happen to have gotten some upgrades of my own.
THUNK
KRRRRRR
Cool.
Maybe a tad excessive. *But cool.*
So what were all these guys doing here now?
It's not how they--
I wouldn't overthink it. See Bullseye. Hit Bullseye. Be home in time for dinner.
Speaking of...

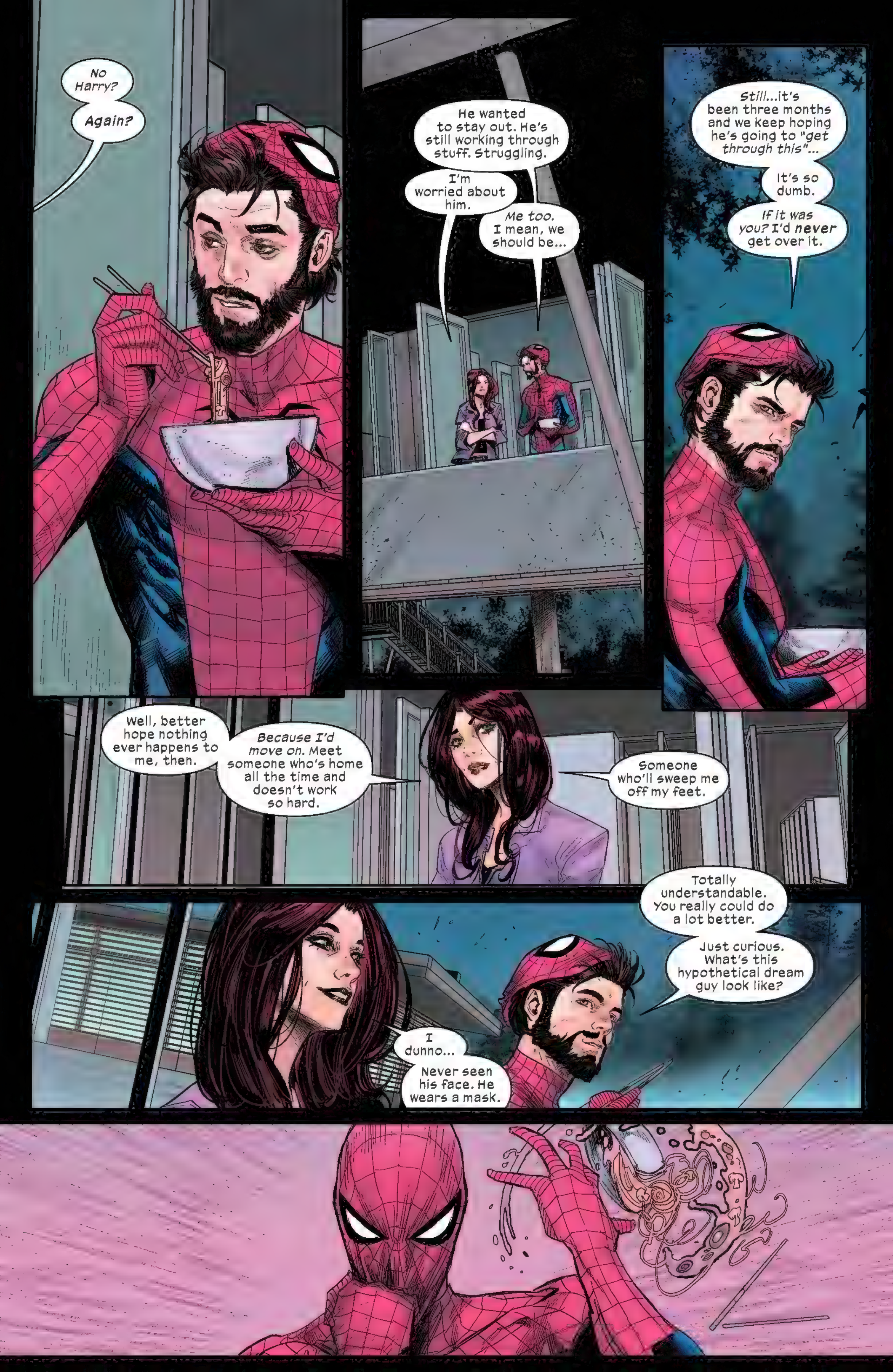

If you hurry, you can still make it.
What about you?
I'll admit you got me a little curious, so I'm gonna stick around...
See if anything pops up.
Come on home, man. It'll help to be around everyone.
No. All it does is remind me that you've got a great family. And I don't...not anymore.
Plus, you know, one can only take so much Otto.
... Harry.
Really, Pete. It's fine.
Gwen's... gone. I miss her, but...what else am I going to do besides this?
... Okay. Promise you'll yell if you need me?
Uh-huh. Comms are working fine.
So if I yell, you better come runnin'.
You yell, I'll be here.

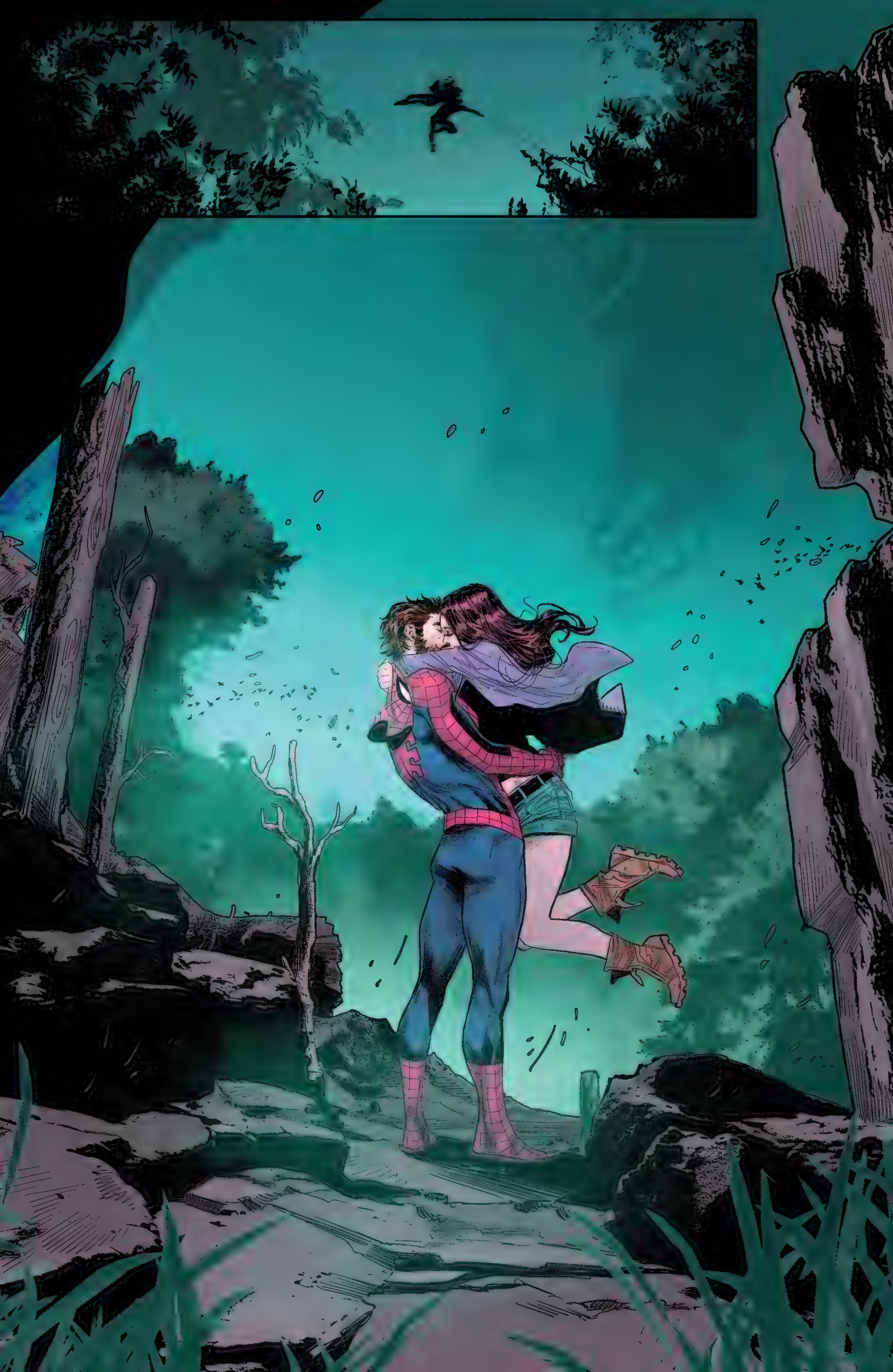

All clear.
What a tangled web we weave, when first we practice to deceive.
I'm so proud of you, son.
I want him safe.
There's nothing more to it.
Of course.
And why wouldn't you lie to him, if all you're going to do is lie to yourself.
...
...
-Sigh-

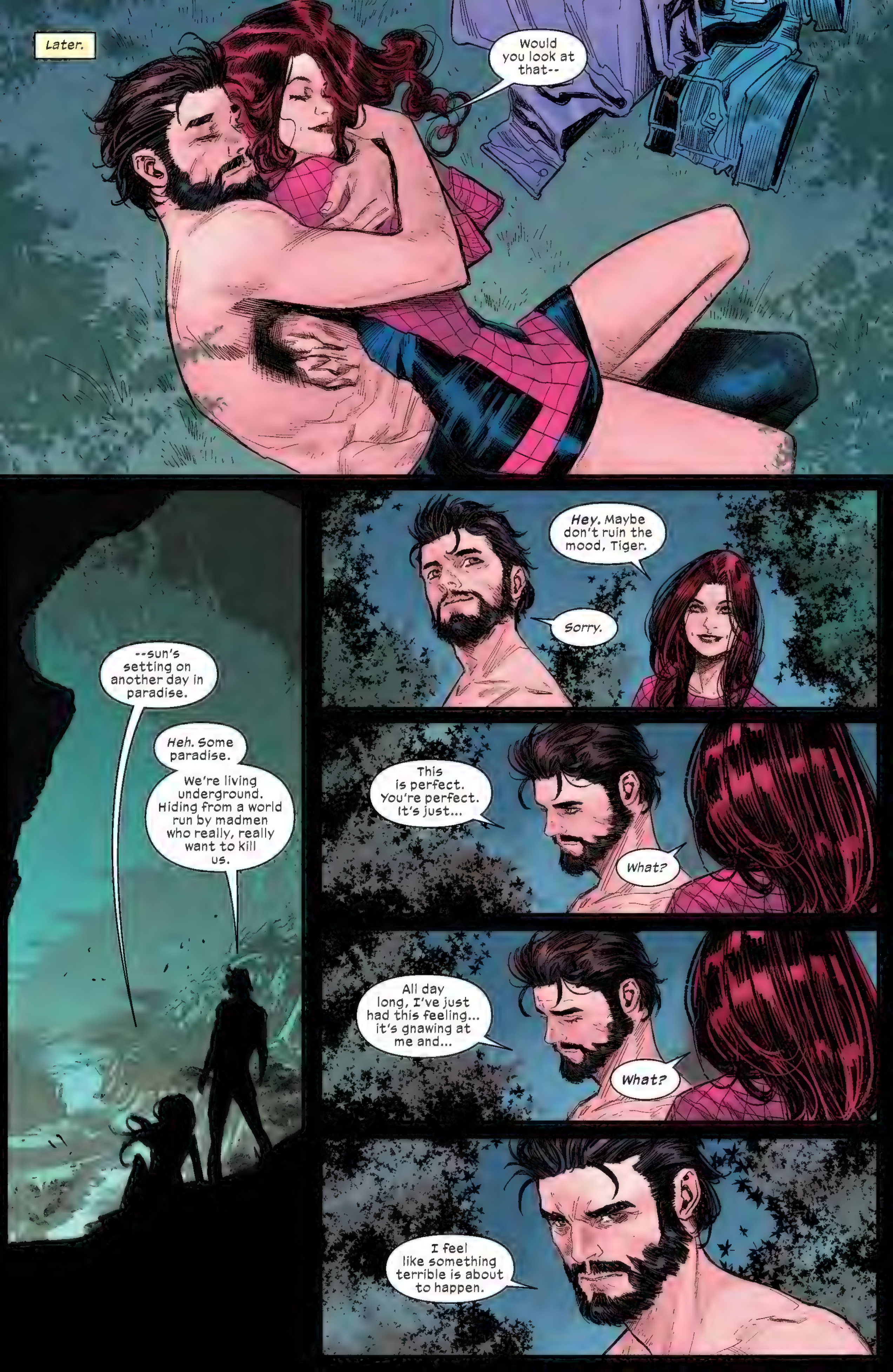

Later.
This'll do it. *This*...is exactly what *we need.*
You see, I've studied how the people who really run this world operate...
I've studied them. I've studied their methods...*and more than that...*
...I've studied their *master.*
The great Maker.
A great builder of societies...
A great builder of machines.
It took some time. A deep dive into all the records that Stane/Stark possessed and following all those threads to their origin...
You see? There's a string at the center of the world. It connects a series of nodes that all connect to the Maker's fabled City itself.
An ocean of knowledge that all rivers flow to...
...and I've built this to *infect it.*

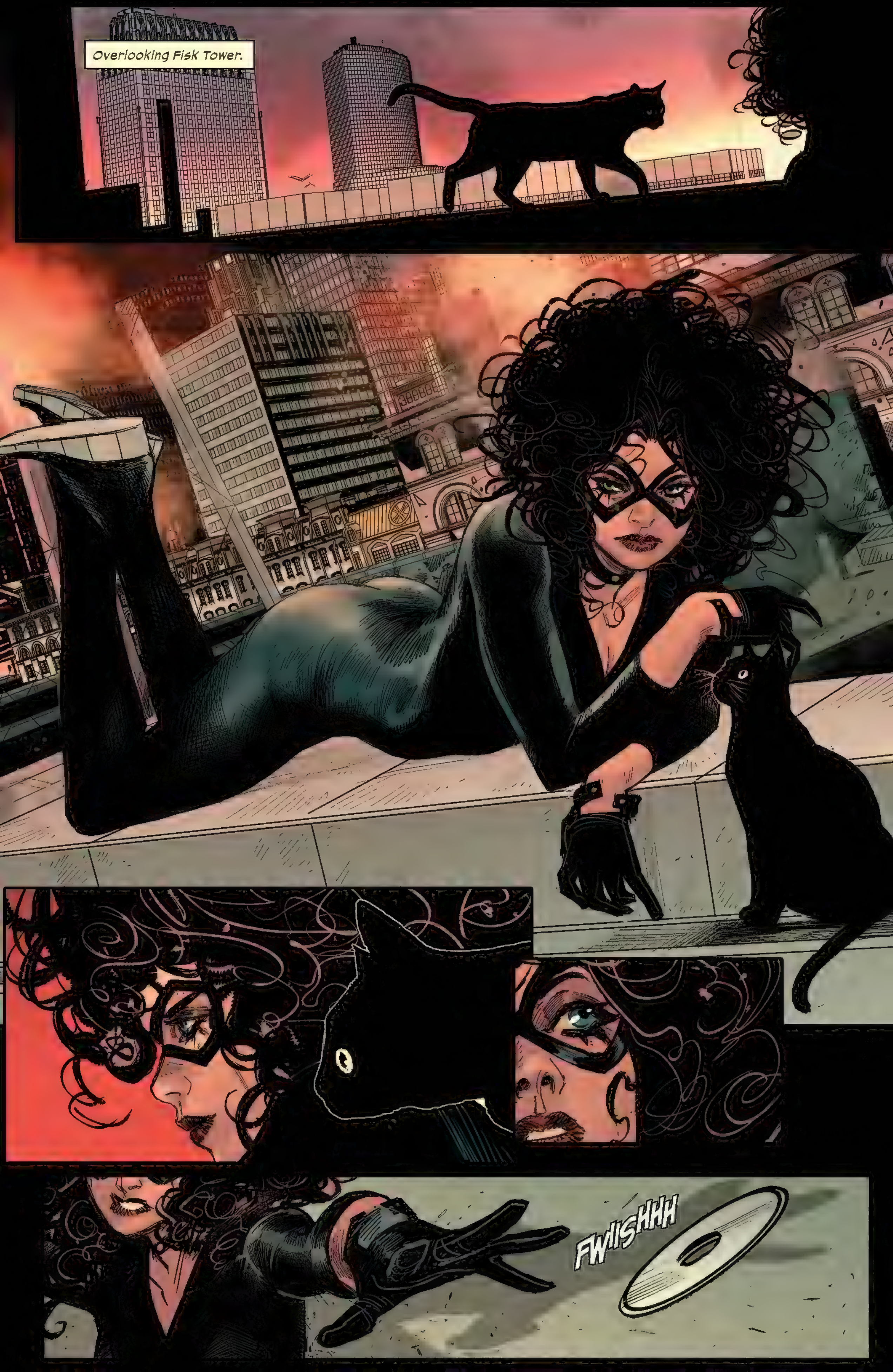

What is it?
A worm. A subtle, self-replicating parasite that eats the tiniest portion of all that knowledge.
Put this device in the right place and it will erase any existing-- and more important than that--any future acquisition of information regarding your family.
And you too, right?
Of course... along with any of our other small number of allies.
What's the catch?
It has to be connected to one of the Maker's nodes.
And the only accessible one on this continent is located in the heart of the Kingpin's empire...
If only there was someone brave enough to do this.

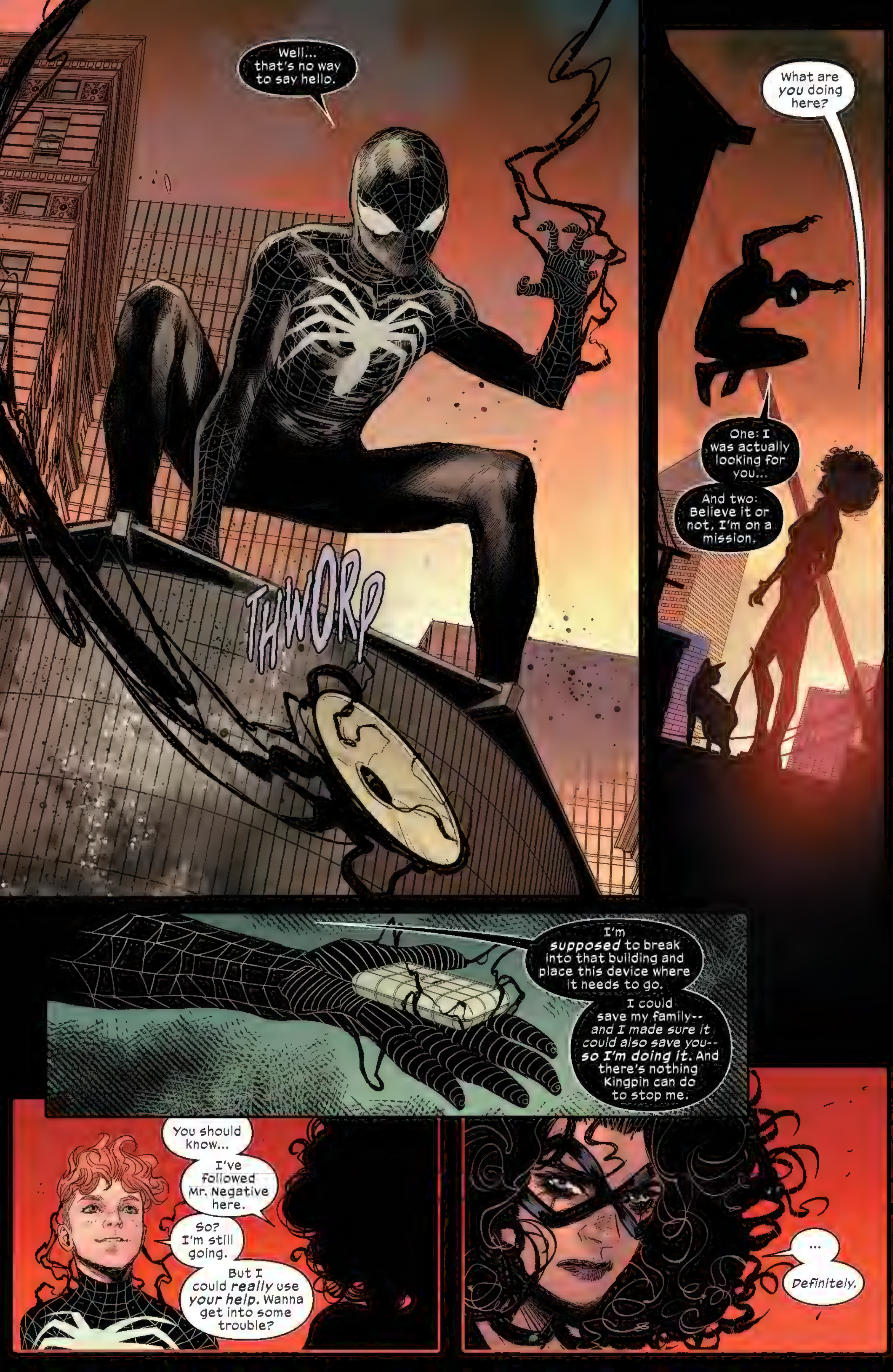

...
Subtle.
...
Well. It needs to be done.
Then why don't you do it instead of trying to get me grounded again?
Because...
...to get to the node, someone would need to break into one of the most secure vaults in this hemisphere.
Why, one could argue that only one of the greatest thieves in the history of the world could pull off something like this...
Know anyone like that?

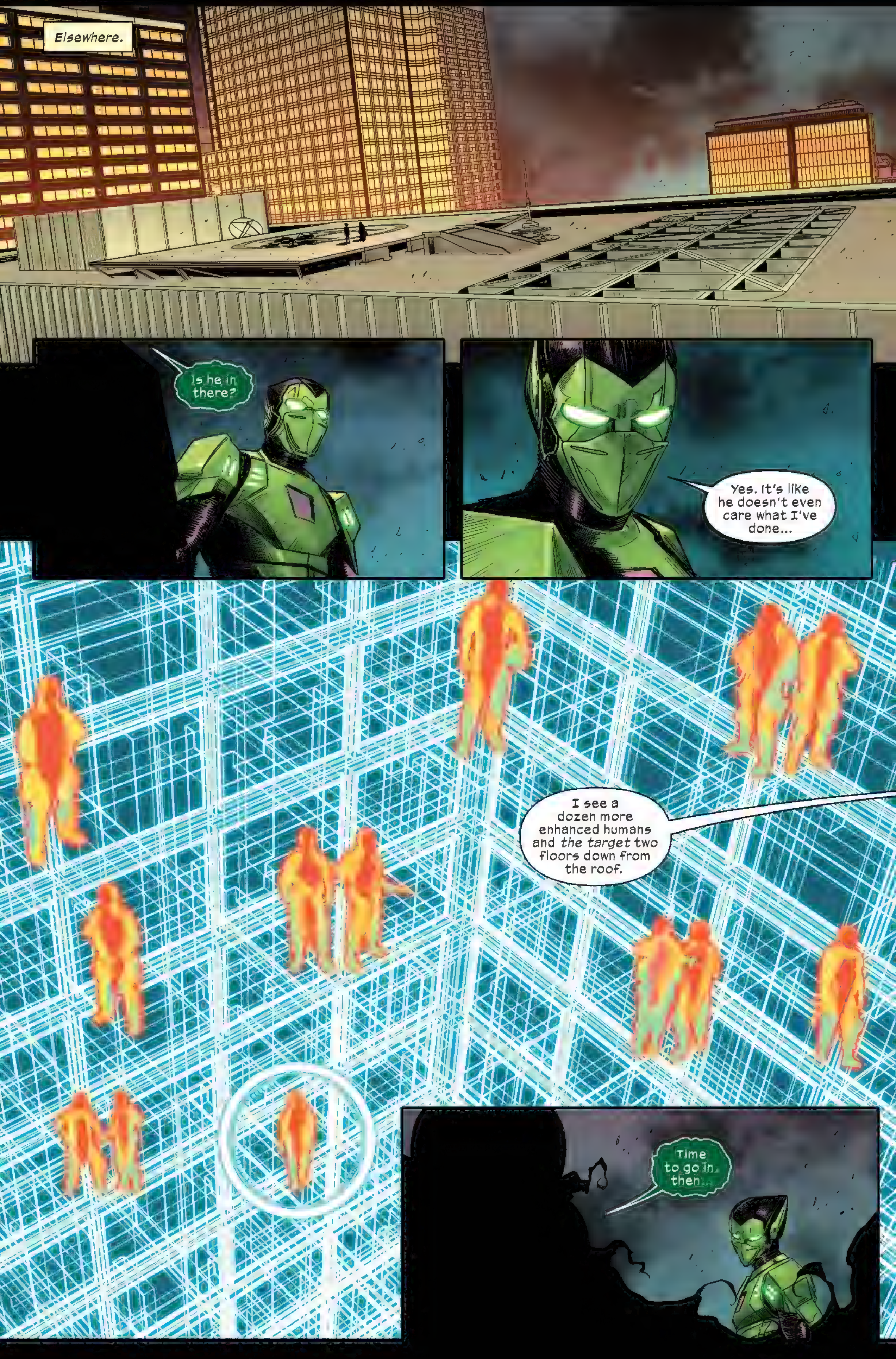

No Harry?
Again?
He wanted to stay out. He's still working through stuff. Struggling.
I'm worried about him.
Me too. I mean, we should be...
Still...it's been three months and we keep hoping he's going to "get through this"...
It's so dumb.
If it was you? I'd never get over it.
Well, better hope nothing ever happens to me, then.
Because I'd move on. Meet someone who's home all the time and doesn't work so hard.
Someone who'll sweep me off my feet.
Totally understandable. You really could do a lot better.
Just curious. What's this hypothetical dream guy look like?
I dunno...
Never seen his face. He wears a mask.

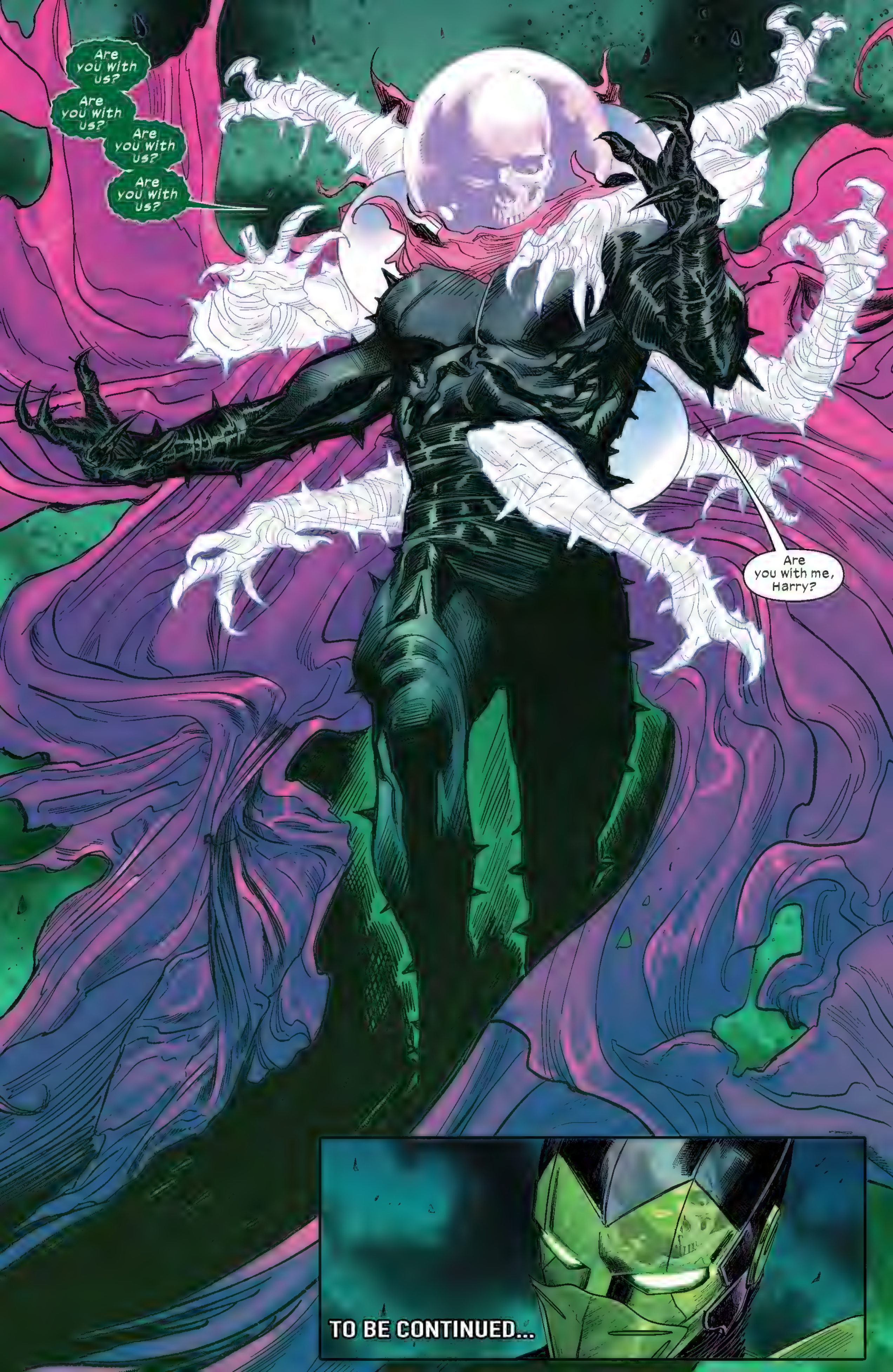



Later.
Would you look at that--
--sun's setting on another day in paradise.
Heh. Some paradise.
We're living underground. Hiding from a world run by madmen who really, really want to kill us.
Hey. Maybe don't ruin the mood, Tiger.
Sorry.
This is perfect. You're perfect. It's just...
What?
All day long, I've just had this feeling... it's gnawing at me and...
What?
I feel like something terrible is about to happen.


Overlooking Fisk Tower.
FWIISHHH


Well... that's no way to say hello.
THWORP
What are *you* doing here?
One: I was actually looking for you...
And two: Believe it or not, I'm on a mission.
I'm *supposed* to break into that building and place this device where it needs to go.
I could save my family-- and I made sure it could also save you-- *so I'm doing it.* And there's nothing Kingpin can do to stop me.
You should know...
I've followed Mr. Negative here.
So? I'm still going.
But I could *really* use *your help.* Wanna get into some trouble?
...
Definitely.


Elsewhere.
Is he in there?
Yes. It's like he doesn't even care what I've done...
I see a dozen more enhanced humans and *the target* two floors down from the roof.
Time to go in, then...


Are you with us?
Are you with us?
Are you with us?
Are you with us?
Are you with me, Harry?
TO BE CONTINUED...

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SPIDER-MAN CREATED BY **STAN LEE** & **STEVE DITKO**

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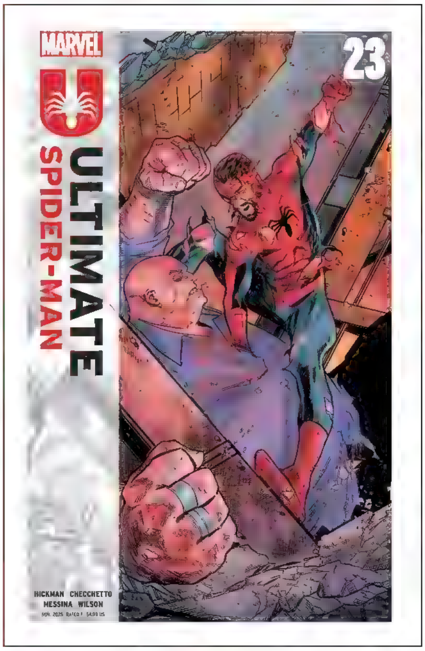
MARVEL
ULTIMATE
SPIDER-MAN
23
HICKMAN CHECCHETTO
MESSINA WILSON

ON SALE IN **NOVEMBER**

ON SALE THIS MONTH

MARVEL
ULTIMATE
BLACK PANTHER
21

ULTIMATE BLACK PANTHER #21

BY **BRYAN HILL**
& **CARLOS NIETO**

MARVEL
ULTIMATE
X-MEN
20
PEACH MOMOKO

ULTIMATE X-MEN #20

BY **PEACH MOMOKO**

MARVEL
THE
ULTIMATES
17

ULTIMATES #17

BY **DENIZ CAMP**
& **PHIL NOTO**

MARVEL
ULTIMATE
WOLVERINE
10

ULTIMATE WOLVERINE #10

BY **CHRIS CONDON**
& **ALEX LINS**

MARVEL
ULTIMATE
SPIDER-MAN: INCURSION
5

ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN: INCURSION #5

BY **DENIZ CAMP**, **CODY ZIGLAR**
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21

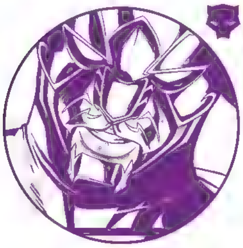
A diabolical genius known as **THE MAKER** created his ideal Earth by systematically preventing anyone from ever becoming a super hero. To rule his perfected Earth, he placed super villains in charge of different regions, and together, **THE MAKER'S COUNCIL** quietly orchestrated the history of the world.

KING T'CHALLA of the highly advanced, isolated **WAKANDA** thought he'd triumphed over the evils of the Maker's Council. But **RA** and **KHONSHU**, the overseers of the African continent, had unlocked a larger, more dangerous power by activating **VIBRANIUM**, the element upon which Wakanda was built.

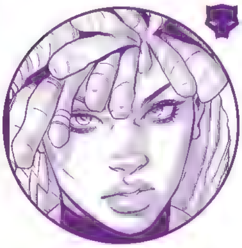
Within vibranium are volatile, angry spirits that call themselves **PROGENITORS**. **BLACK PANTHER** has disappeared, transported to the spiritual realm by the goddess **BAST** to strengthen his power, and **STORM** is missing. Meanwhile, **KILLMONGER** and **OKOYE** chase their own answers about vibranium...and about why T'Challa's sister, **SHURI**, was the spy who fed their enemies information about Wakanda.

ULTIMATE BLACK PANTHER

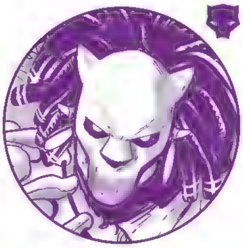
CAST:



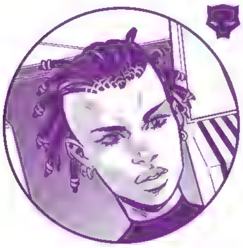
BLACK PANTHER
KING T'CHALLA



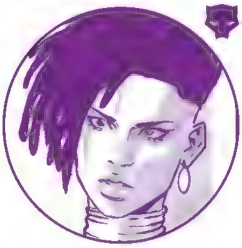
STORM
ORORO MUNROE



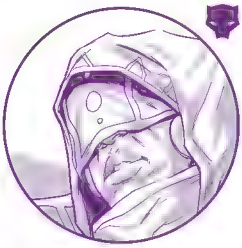
KILLMONGER
ERIK KILLMONGER



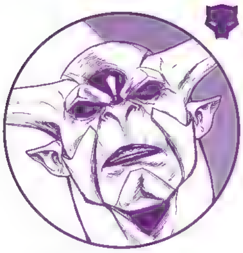
SHURI
WOMAN-AT-ARMS,
T'CHALLA'S SISTER



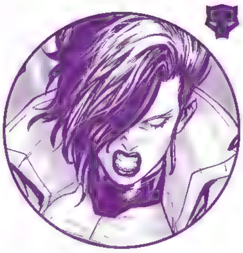
QUEEN OKOYE
HIGH MENTOR OF
THE DORA MILAJE



MATRON IMALA
SACRED MOTHER OF
THE VODU-KHAN

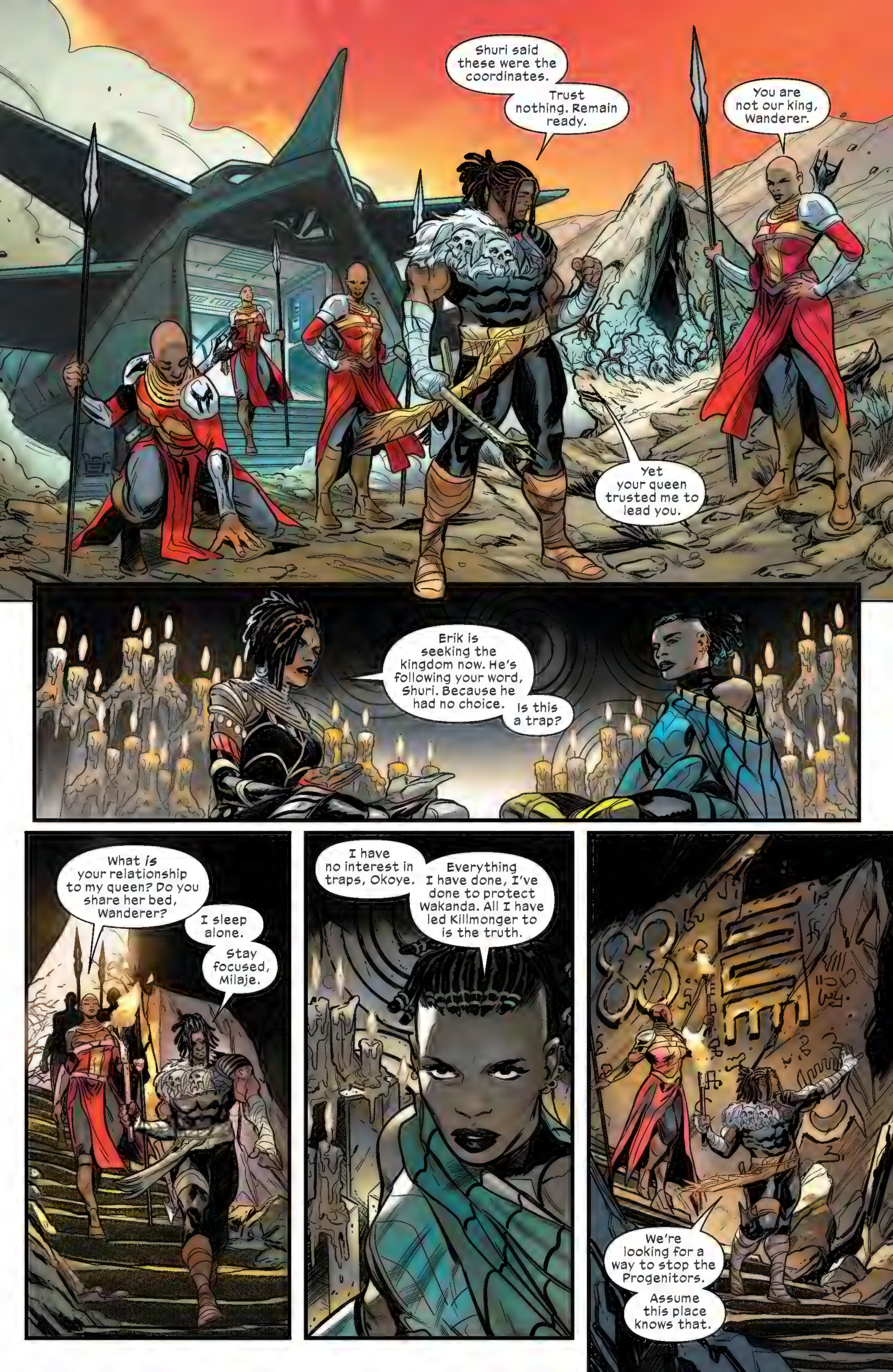


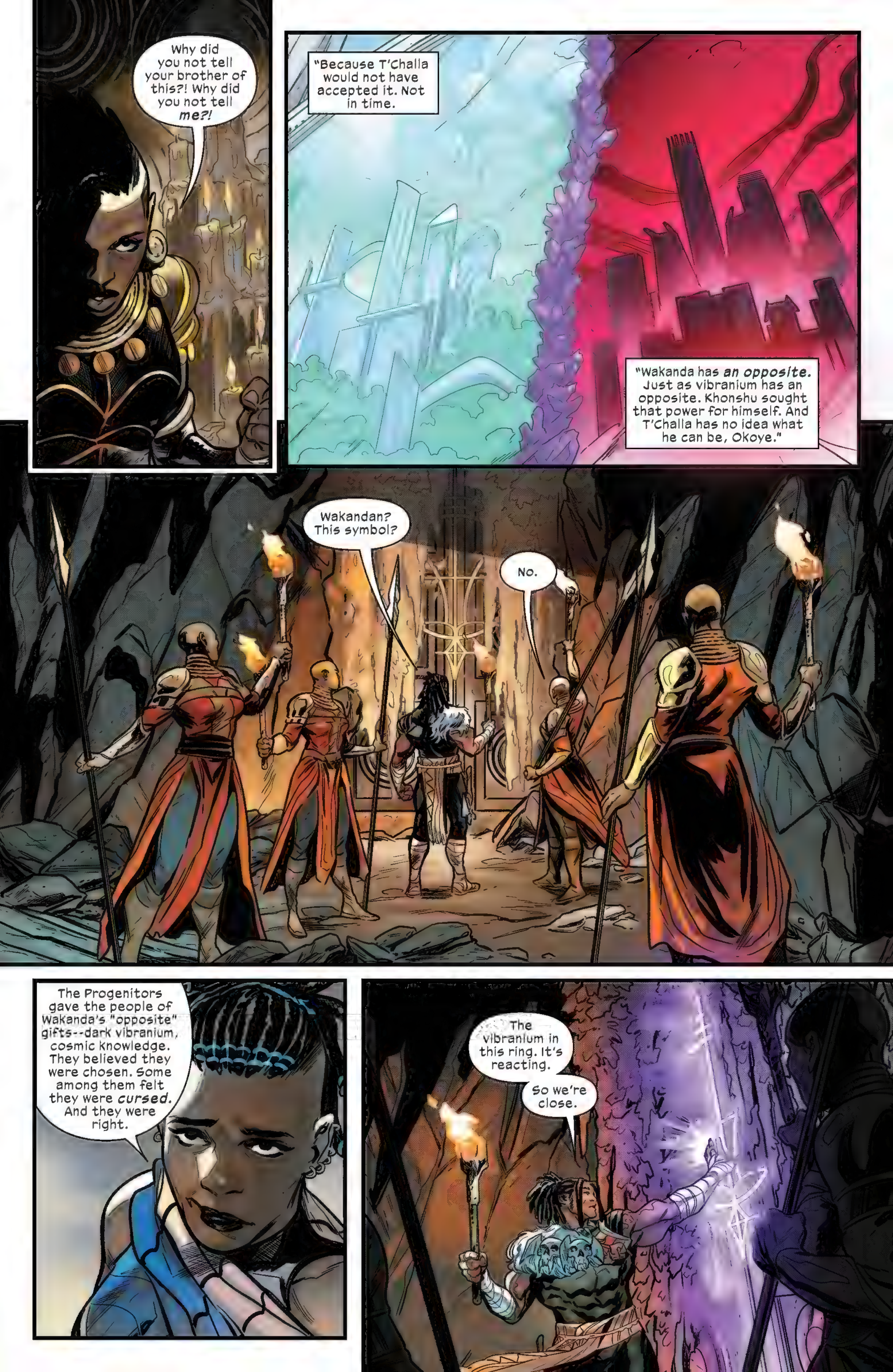
Z'NON
SPIRIT OF
VIBRANIUM

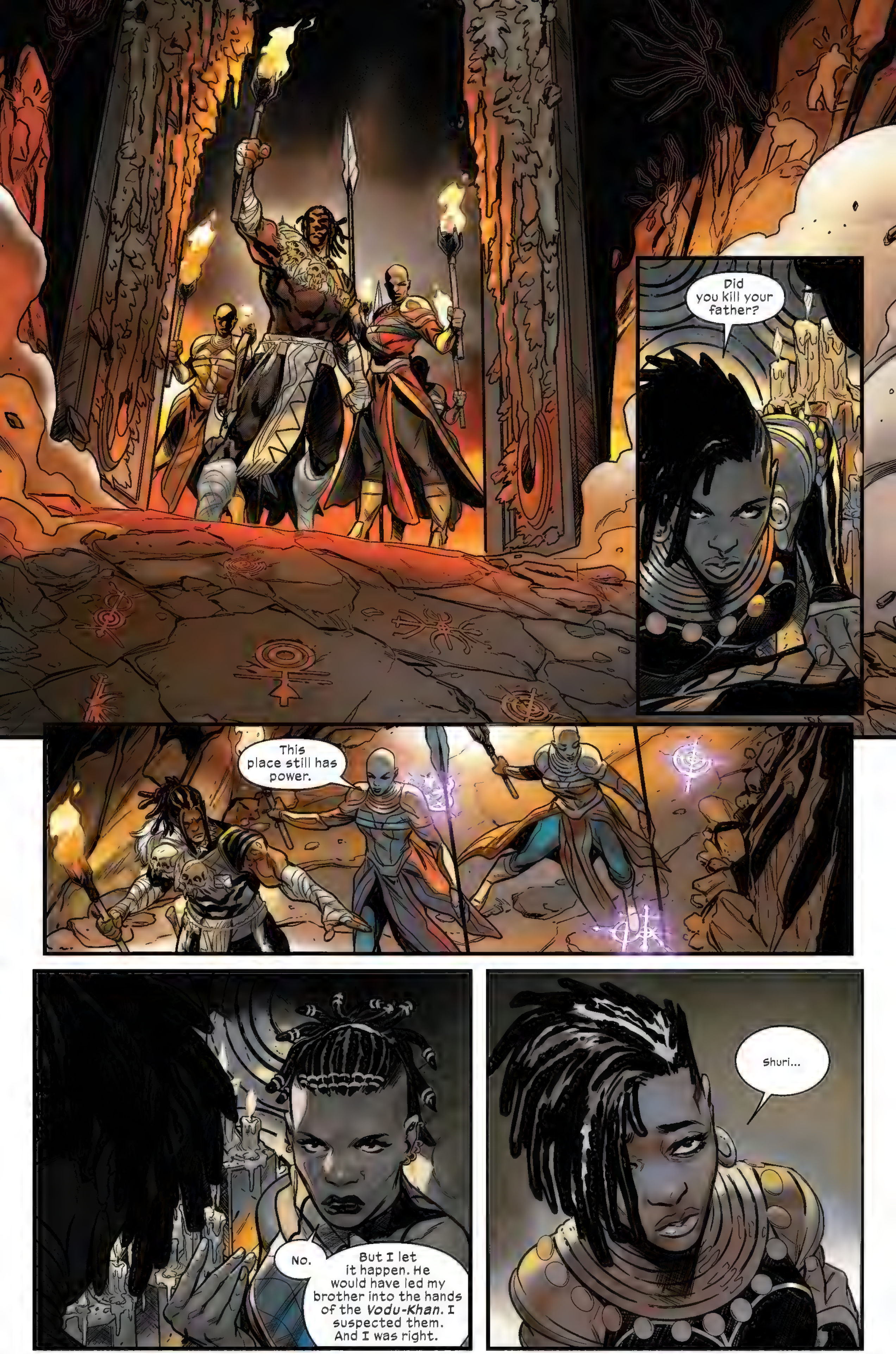


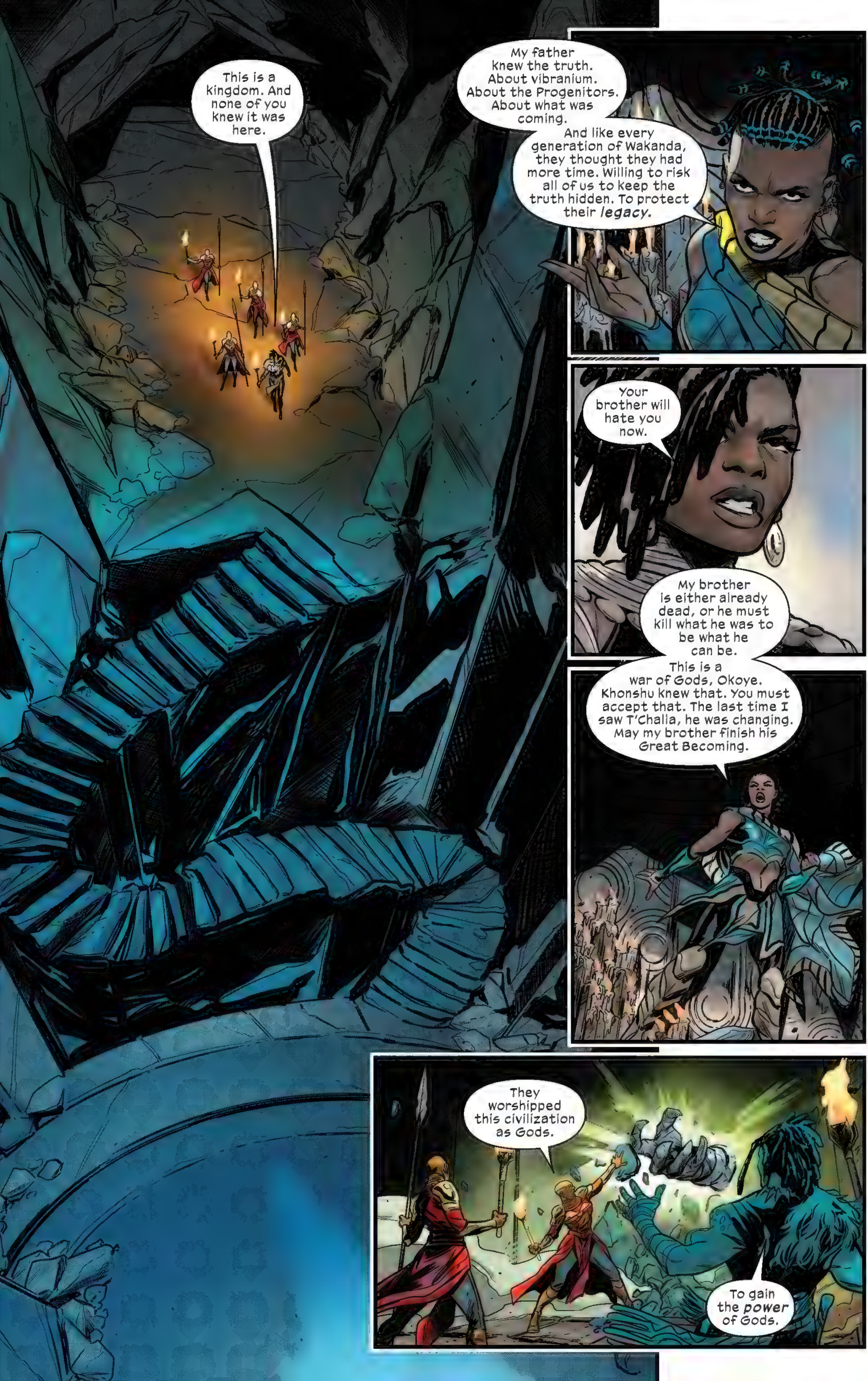
INAN
THE SORCERER
SUPREME

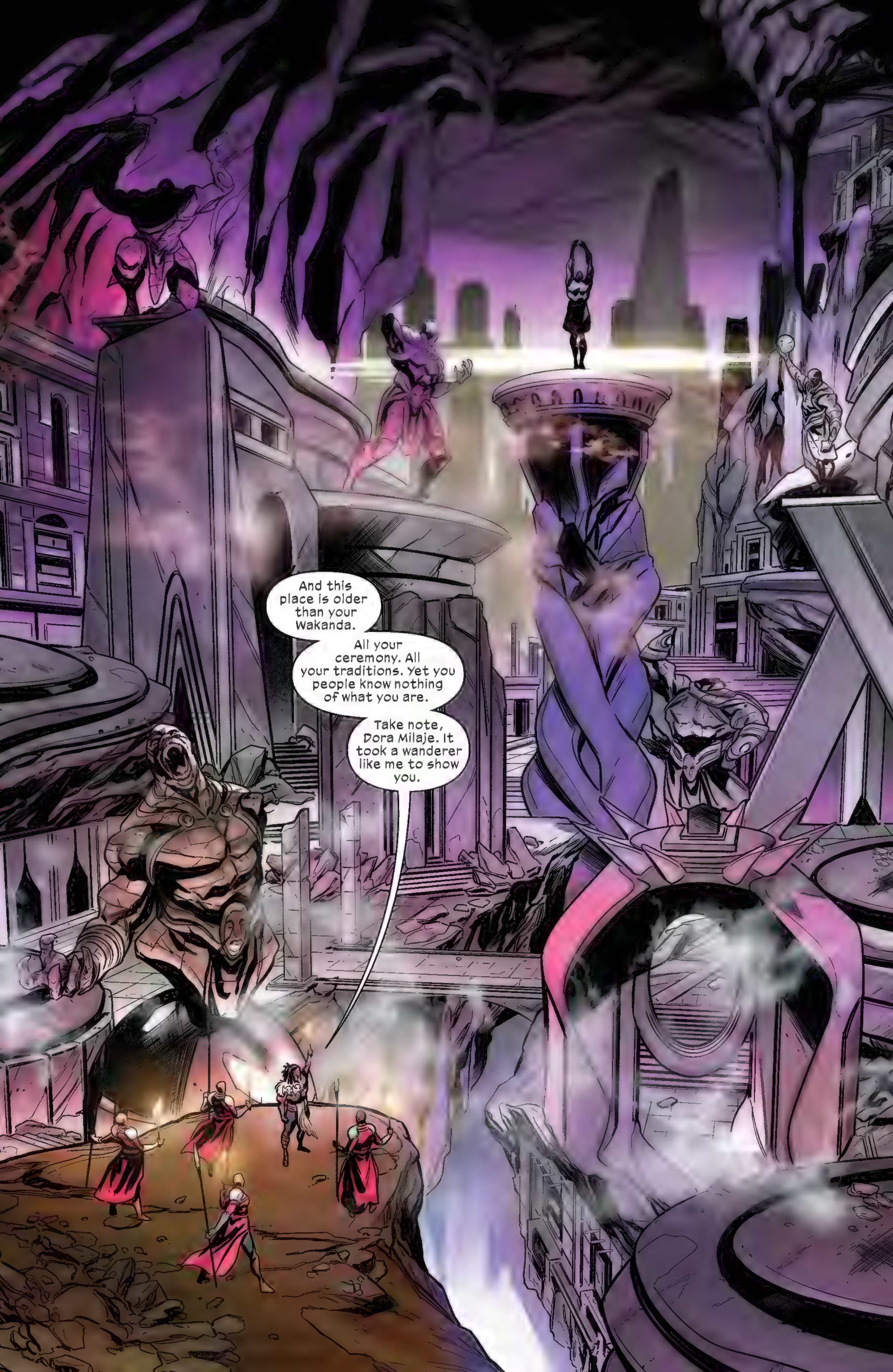
OCTOBER 2025

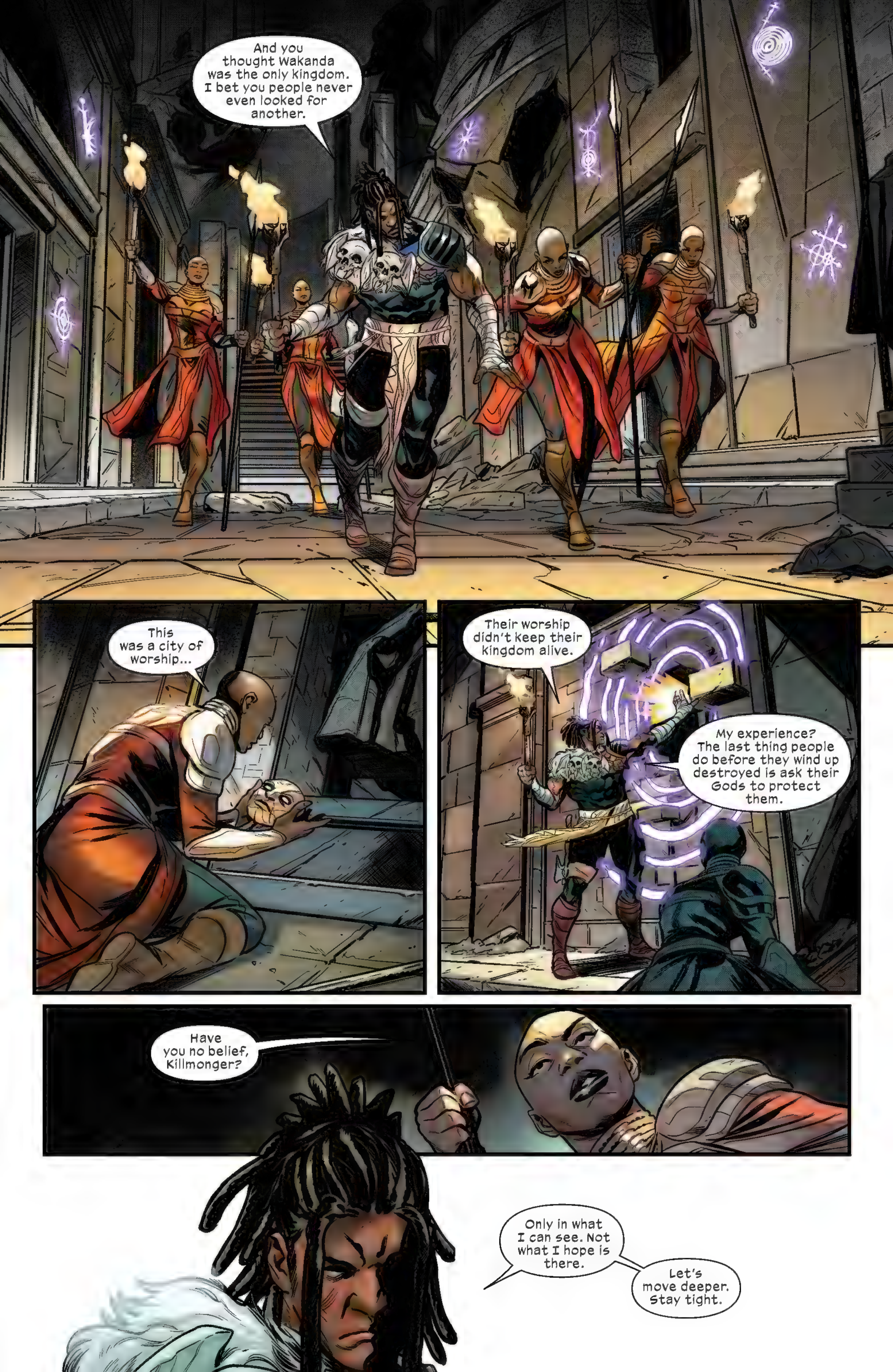

Shuri said these were the coordinates.
Trust nothing. Remain ready.
You are not our king, Wanderer.
Yet your queen trusted me to lead you.
Erik is seeking the kingdom now. He's following your word, Shuri. Because he had no choice.
Is this a trap?
What *is* your relationship to my queen? Do you share her bed, Wanderer?
I sleep alone.
Stay focused, Milaje.
I have no interest in traps, Okoye.
Everything I have done, I've done to protect Wakanda. All I have led Killmonger to is the truth.
We're looking for a way to stop the Progenitors.
Assume this place knows that.

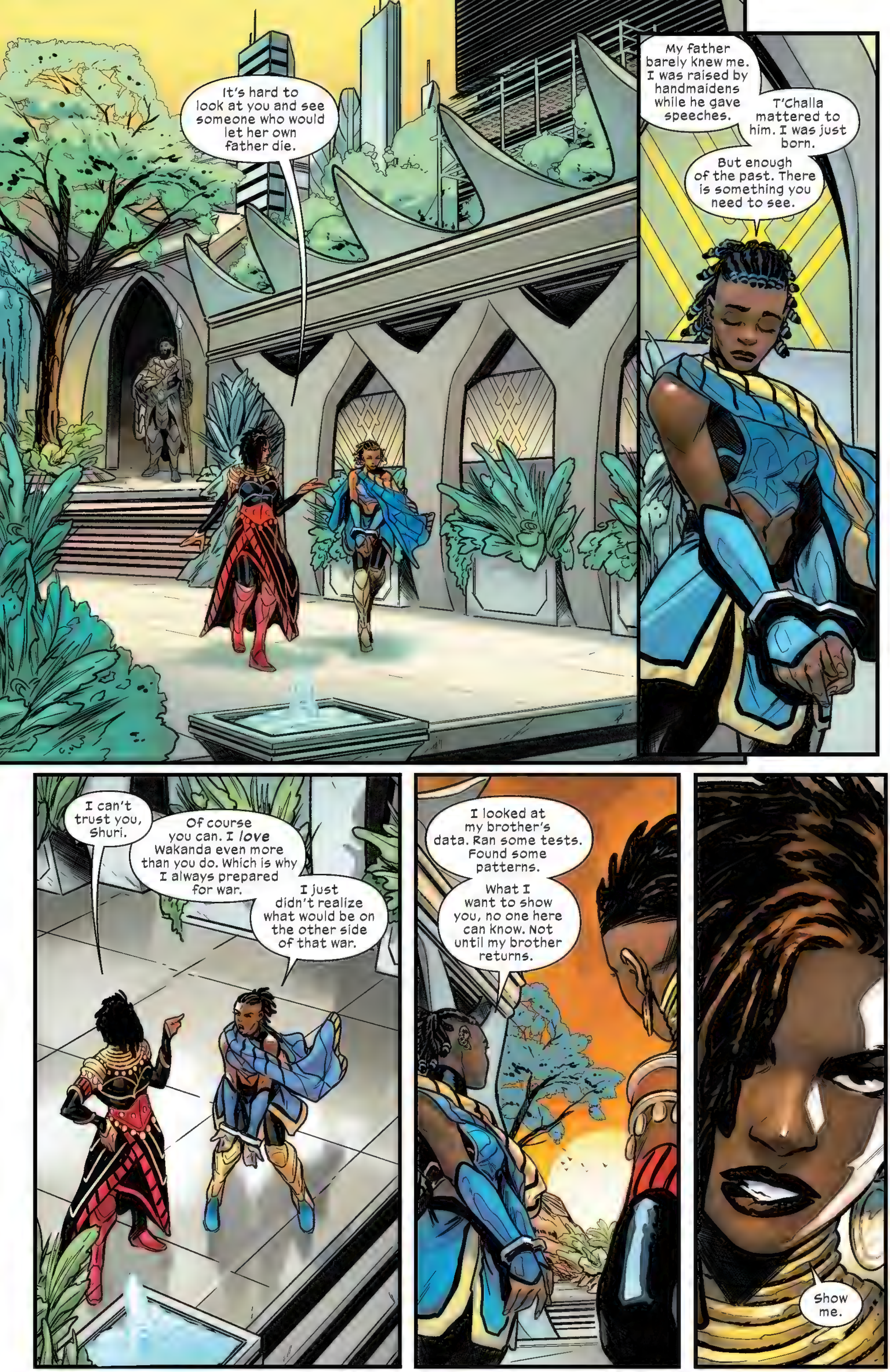

Why did you not tell your brother of this?! Why did you not tell *me?!*
"Because T'Challa would not have accepted it. Not in time.
"Wakanda has *an opposite.* Just as vibranium has an opposite. Khonshu sought that power for himself. And T'Challa has no idea what he can be, Okoye."
Wakandan? This symbol?
No.
The Progenitors gave the people of Wakanda's "opposite" gifts--dark vibranium, cosmic knowledge. They believed they were chosen. Some among them felt they were *cursed.* And they were right.
The vibranium in this ring. It's reacting.
So we're close.

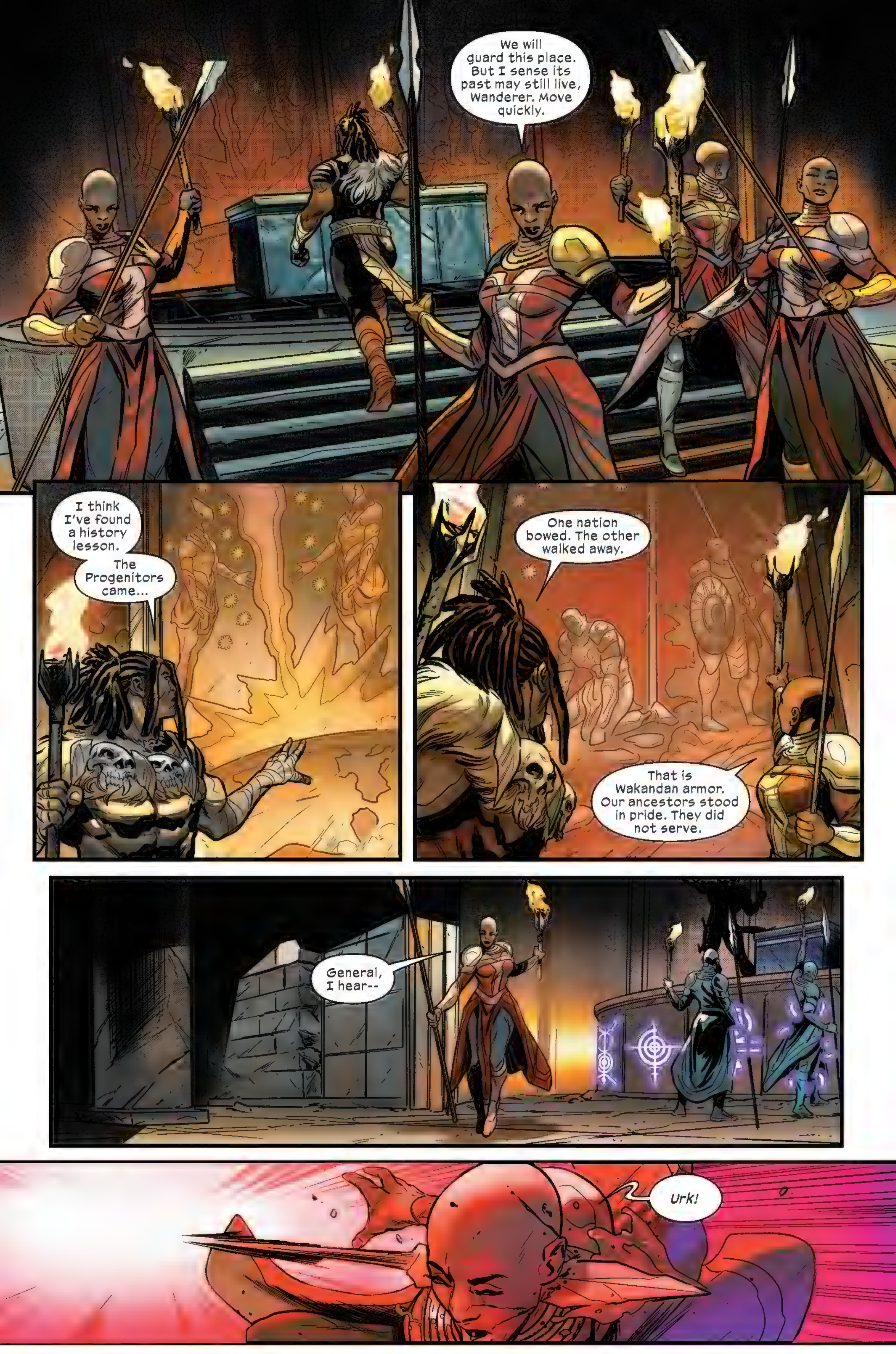

Did you kill your father?
This place still has power.
No.
But I let it happen. He would have led my brother into the hands of the *Vodu-Khan*. I suspected them. And I was right.
Shuri...

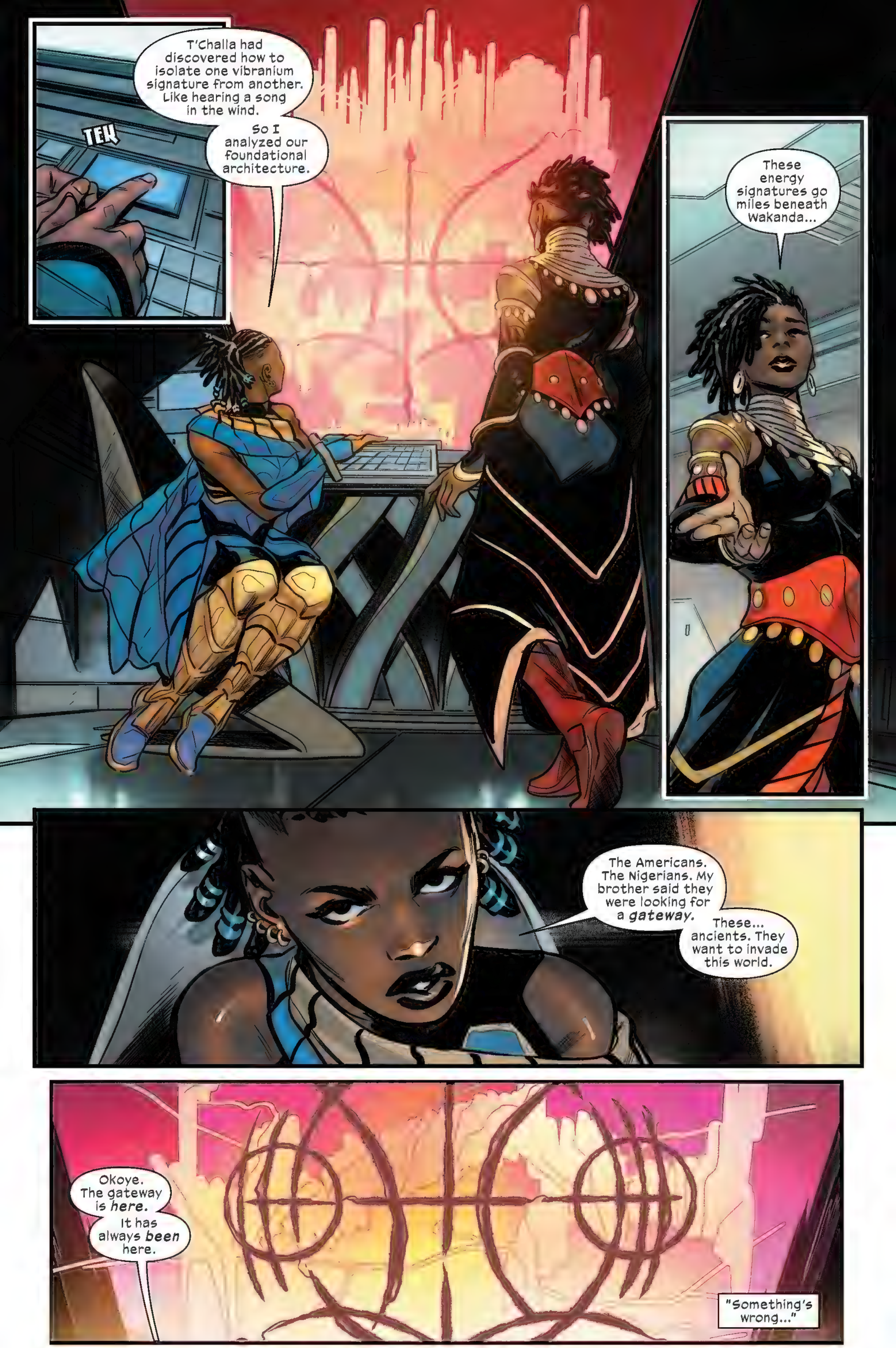

This is a kingdom. And none of you knew it was here.
My father knew the truth. About vibranium. About the Progenitors. About what was coming.
And like every generation of Wakanda, they thought they had more time. Willing to risk all of us to keep the truth hidden. To protect their *legacy*.
Your brother will hate you now.
My brother is either already dead, or he must kill what he was to be what he can be.
This is a war of Gods, Okoye. Khonshu knew that. You must accept that. The last time I saw T'Challa, he was changing. May my brother finish his Great Becoming.
They worshipped this civilization as Gods.
To gain the *power* of Gods.

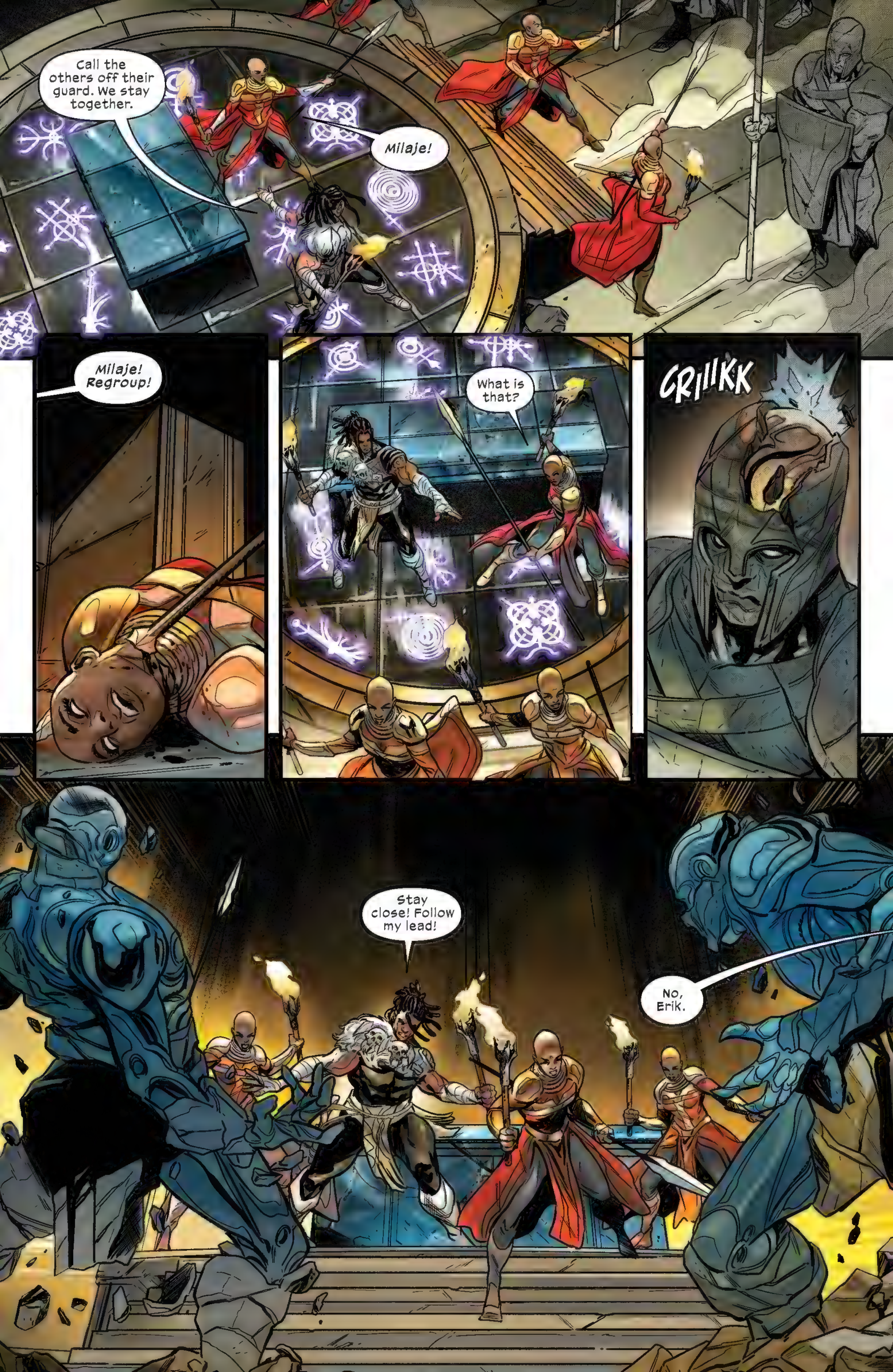

And this place is older than your Wakanda.
All your ceremony. All your traditions. Yet you people know nothing of what you are.
Take note, Dora Milaje. It took a wanderer like me to show you.

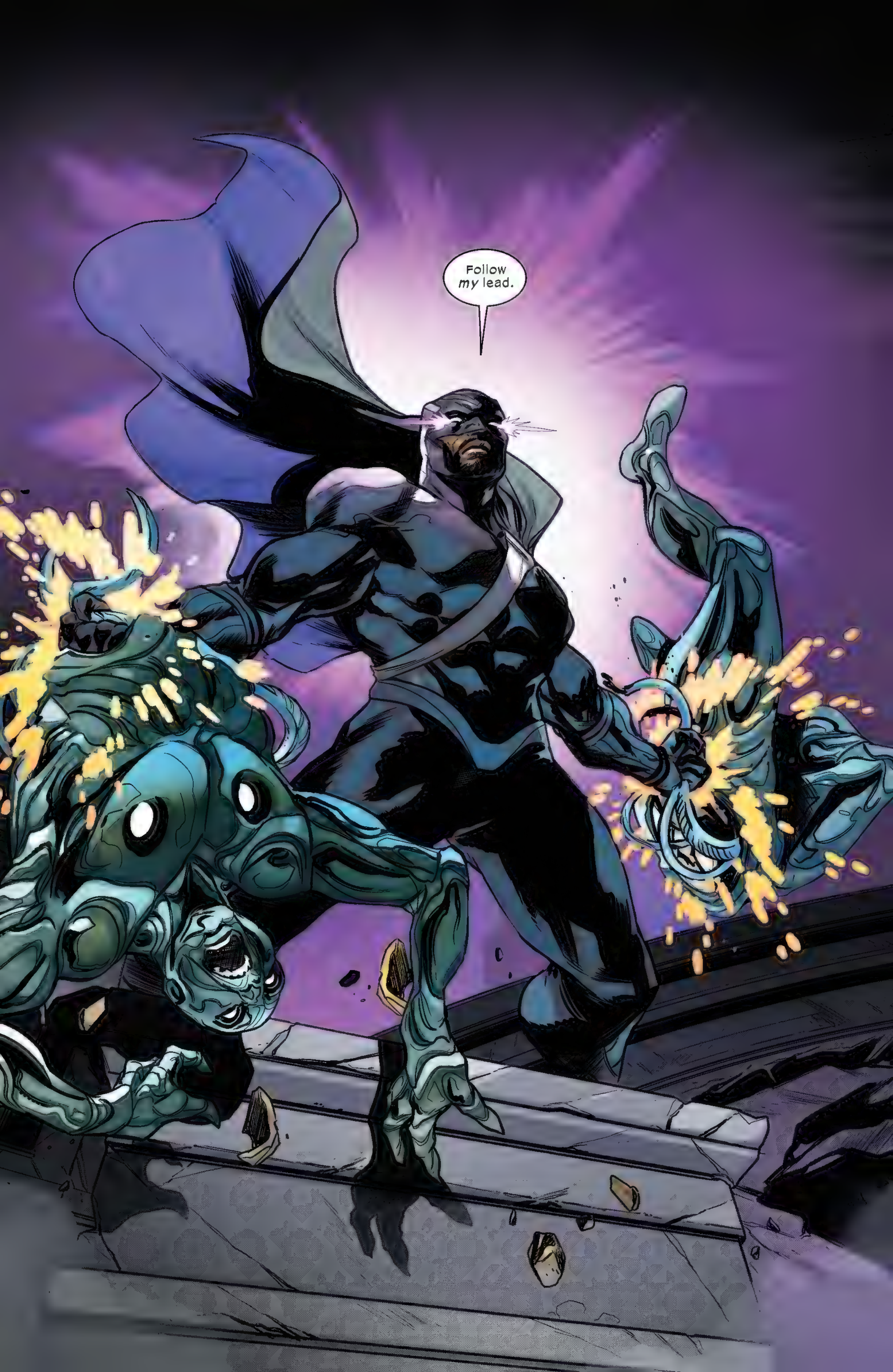

And you thought Wakanda was the only kingdom. I bet you people never even looked for another.
This was a city of worship...
Their worship didn't keep their kingdom alive.
My experience? The last thing people do before they wind up destroyed is ask their Gods to protect them.
Have you no belief, Killmonger?
Only in what I can see. Not what I hope is there.
Let's move deeper. Stay tight.

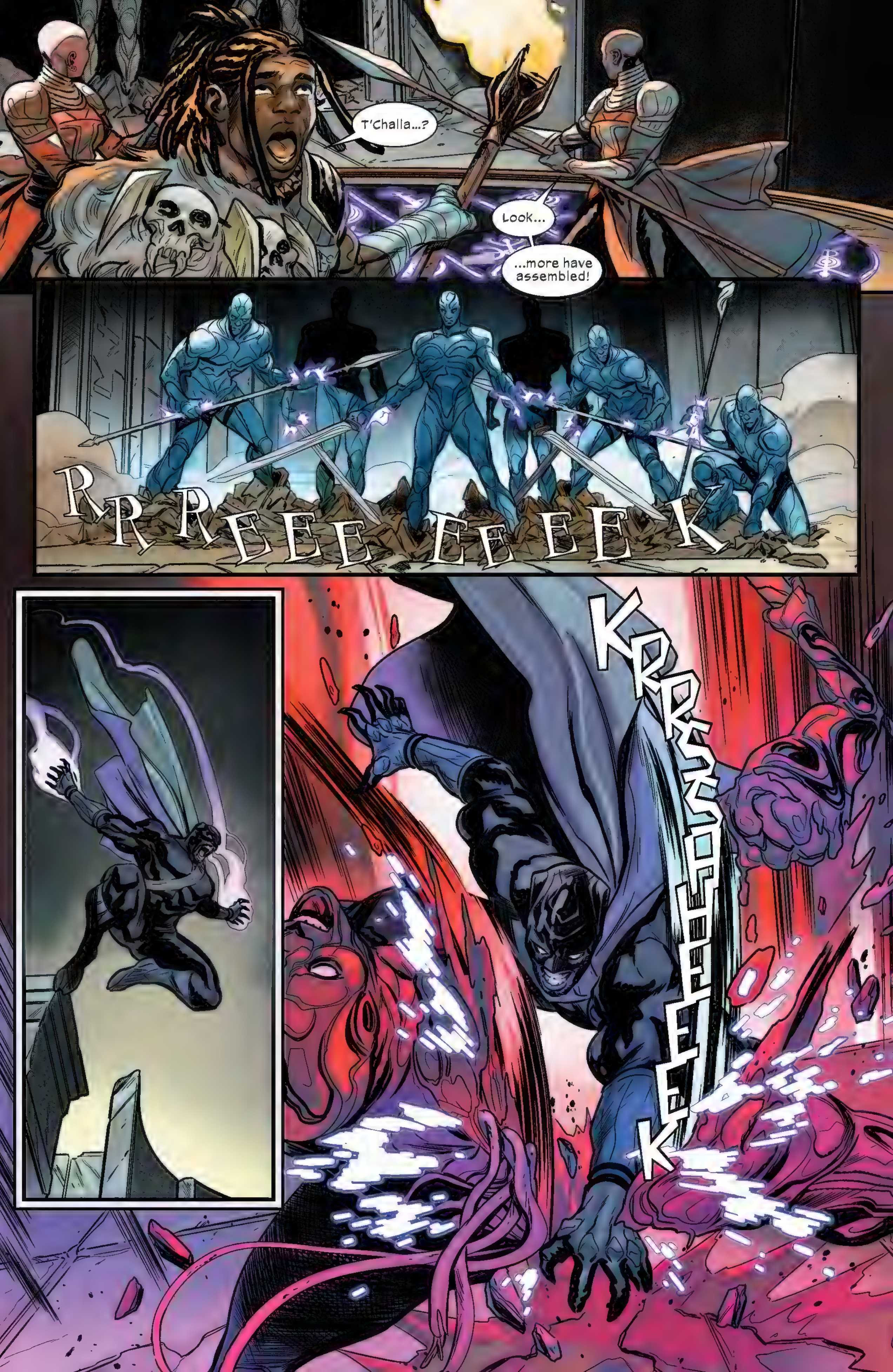

It's hard to look at you and see someone who would let her own father die.
My father barely knew me. I was raised by handmaidens while he gave speeches.
T'Challa mattered to him. I was just born.
But enough of the past. There is something you need to see.
I can't trust you, Shuri.
Of course you can. I *love* Wakanda even more than you do. Which is why I always prepared for war.
I just didn't realize what would be on the other side of that war.
I looked at my brother's data. Ran some tests. Found some patterns.
What I want to show you, no one here can know. Not until my brother returns.
Show me.

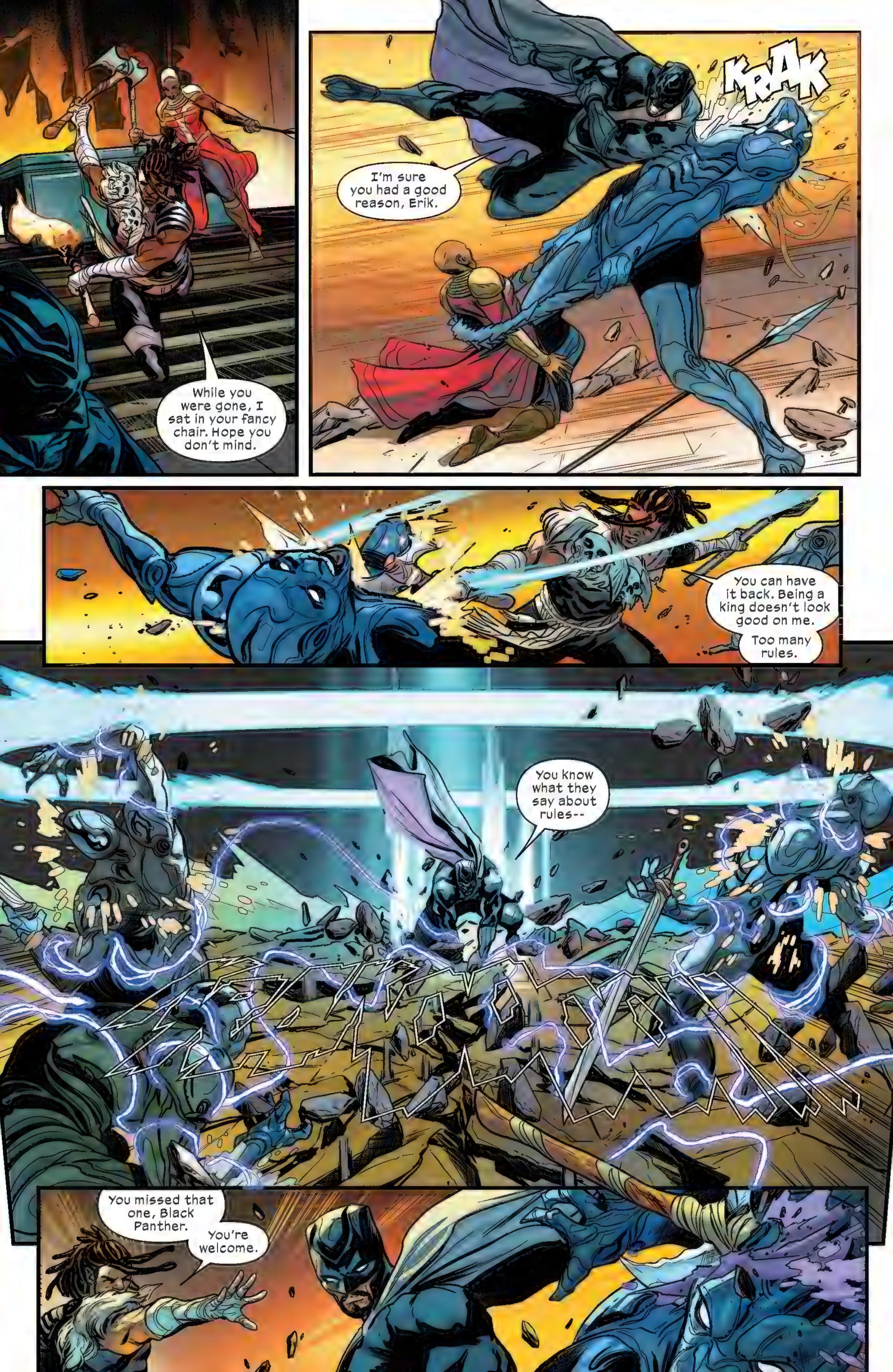

We will guard this place. But I sense its past may still live, Wanderer. Move quickly.
I think I've found a history lesson.
The Progenitors came...
One nation bowed. The other walked away.
That is Wakandan armor. Our ancestors stood in pride. They did not serve.
General, I hear--
Urk!

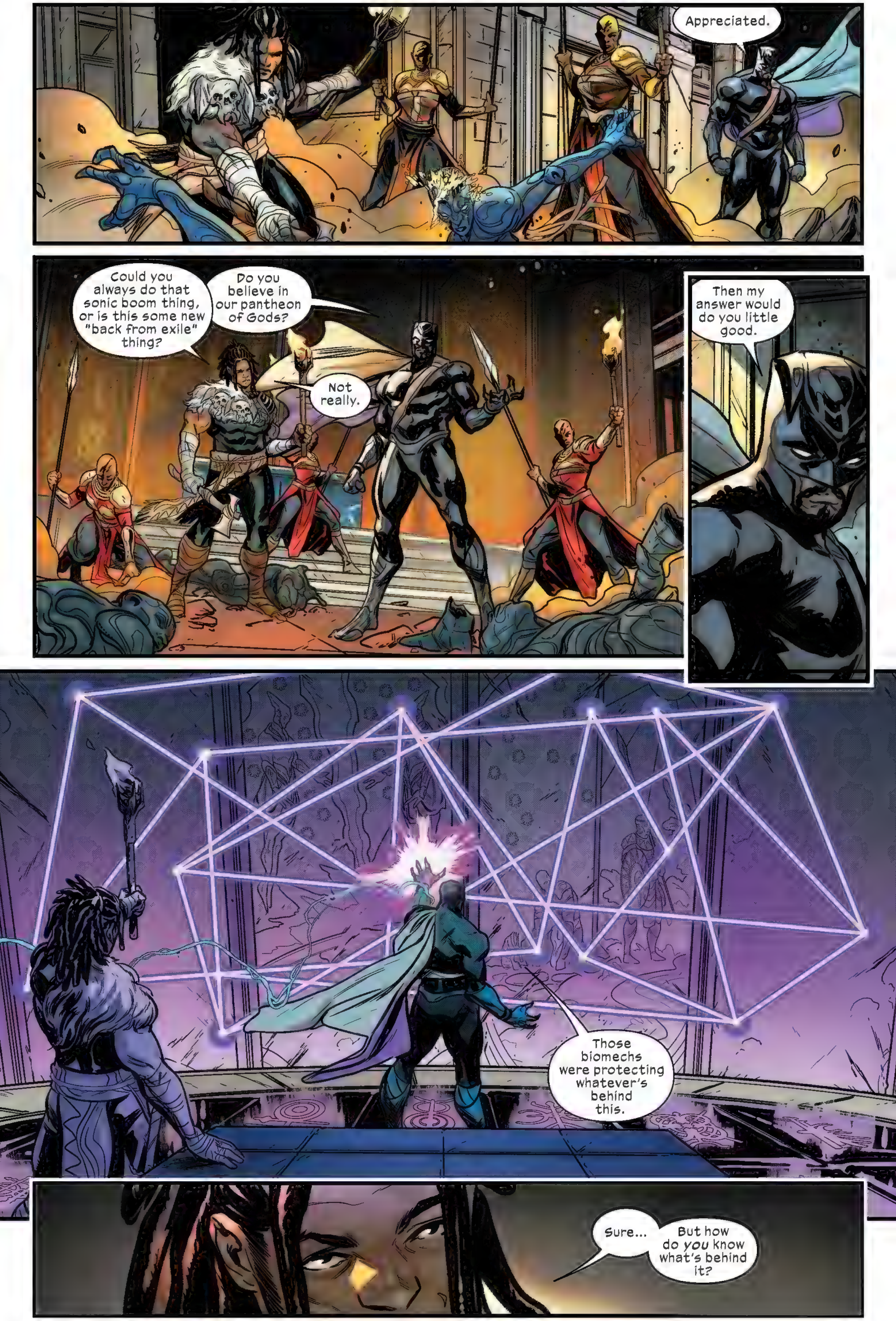

T'Challa had discovered how to isolate one vibranium signature from another. Like hearing a song in the wind.
TEK
So I analyzed our foundational architecture.
These energy signatures go miles beneath Wakanda...
The Americans. The Nigerians. My brother said they were looking for a *gateway.*
These... ancients. They want to invade this world.
Okoye. The gateway is *here.*
It has always *been* here.
"Something's wrong..."

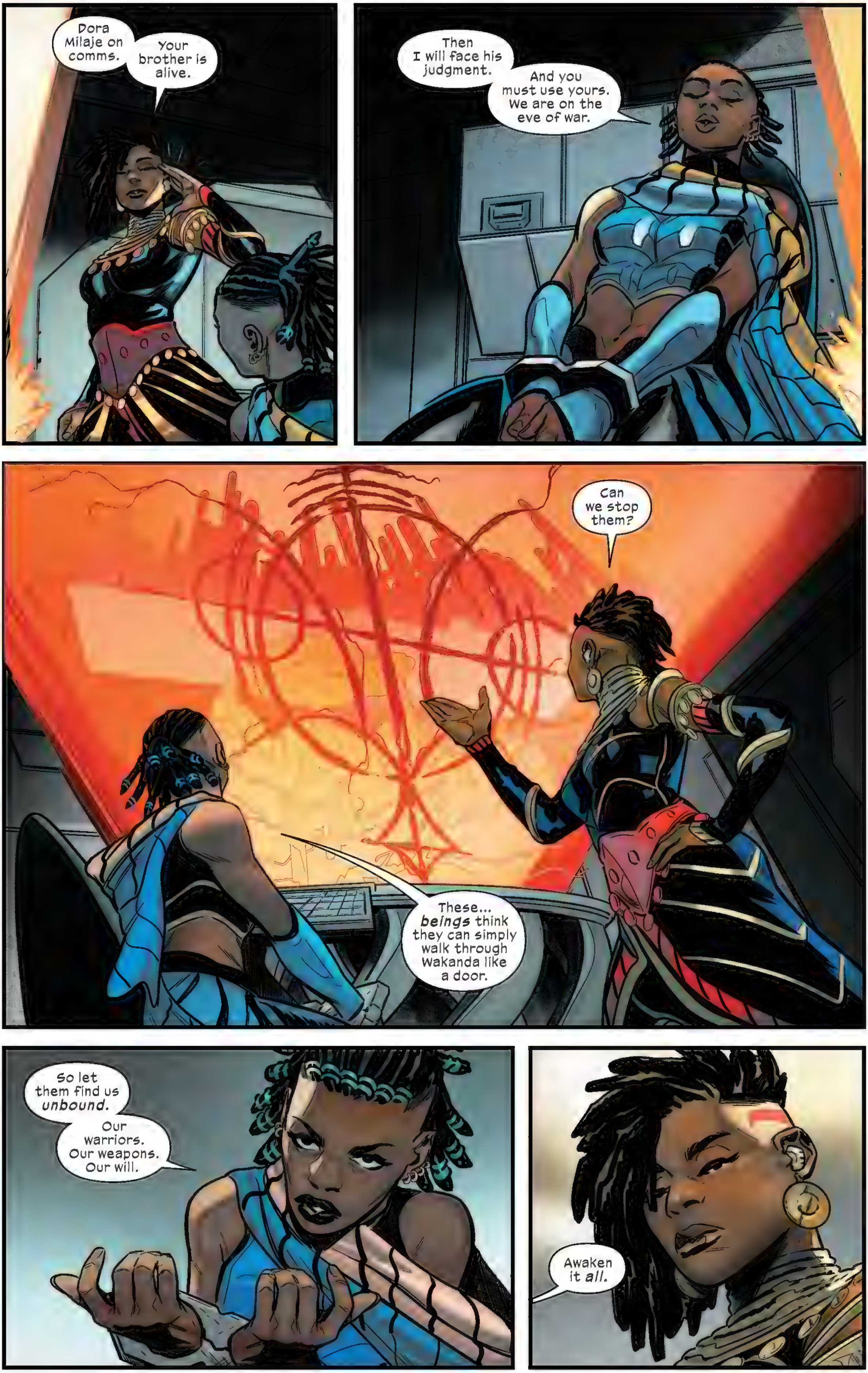

Call the others off their guard. We stay together.
Milaje!
Milaje! Regroup!
What is that?
CRIIIKK
Stay close! Follow my lead!
No, Erik.

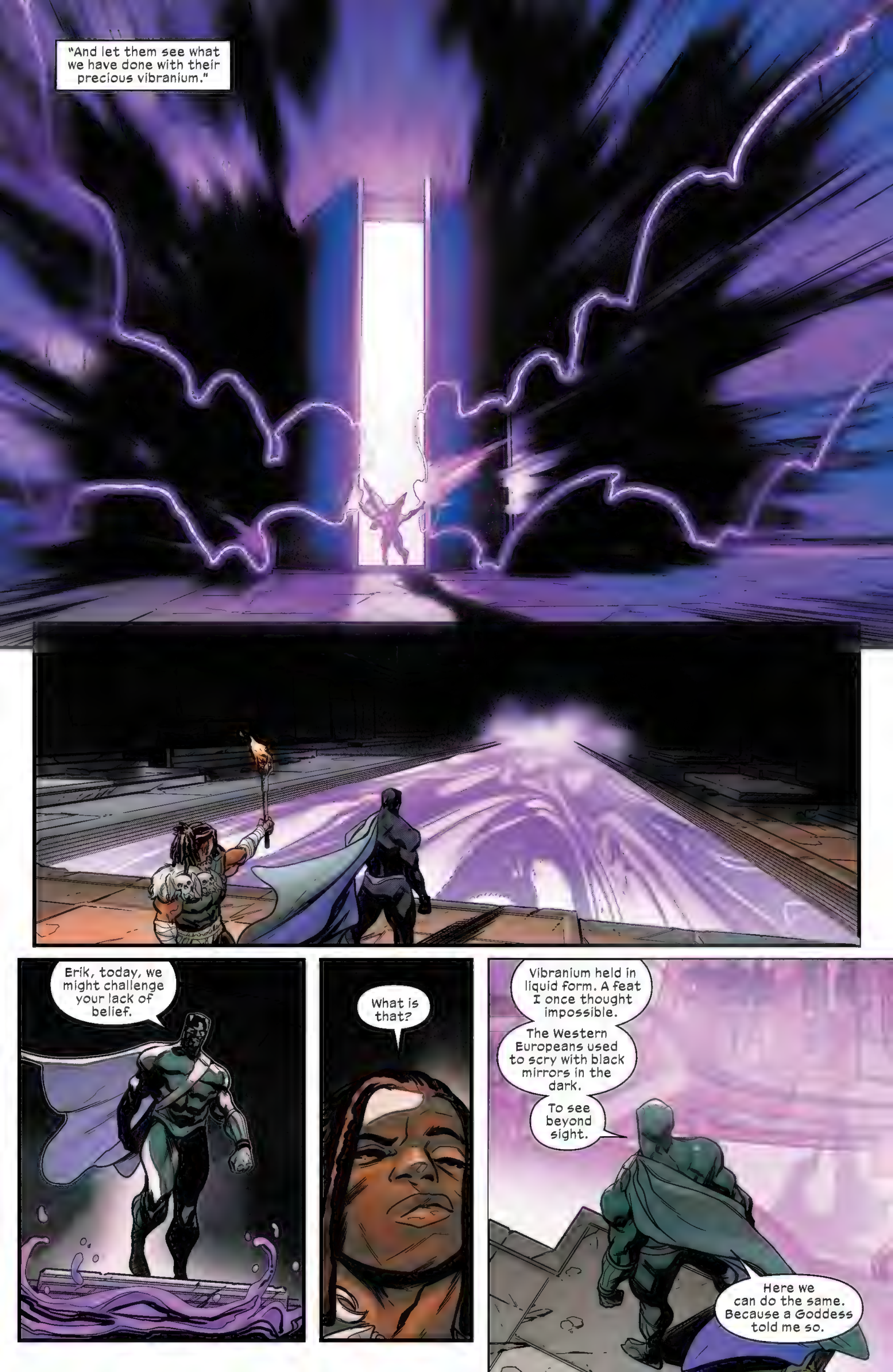

Follow *my* lead.

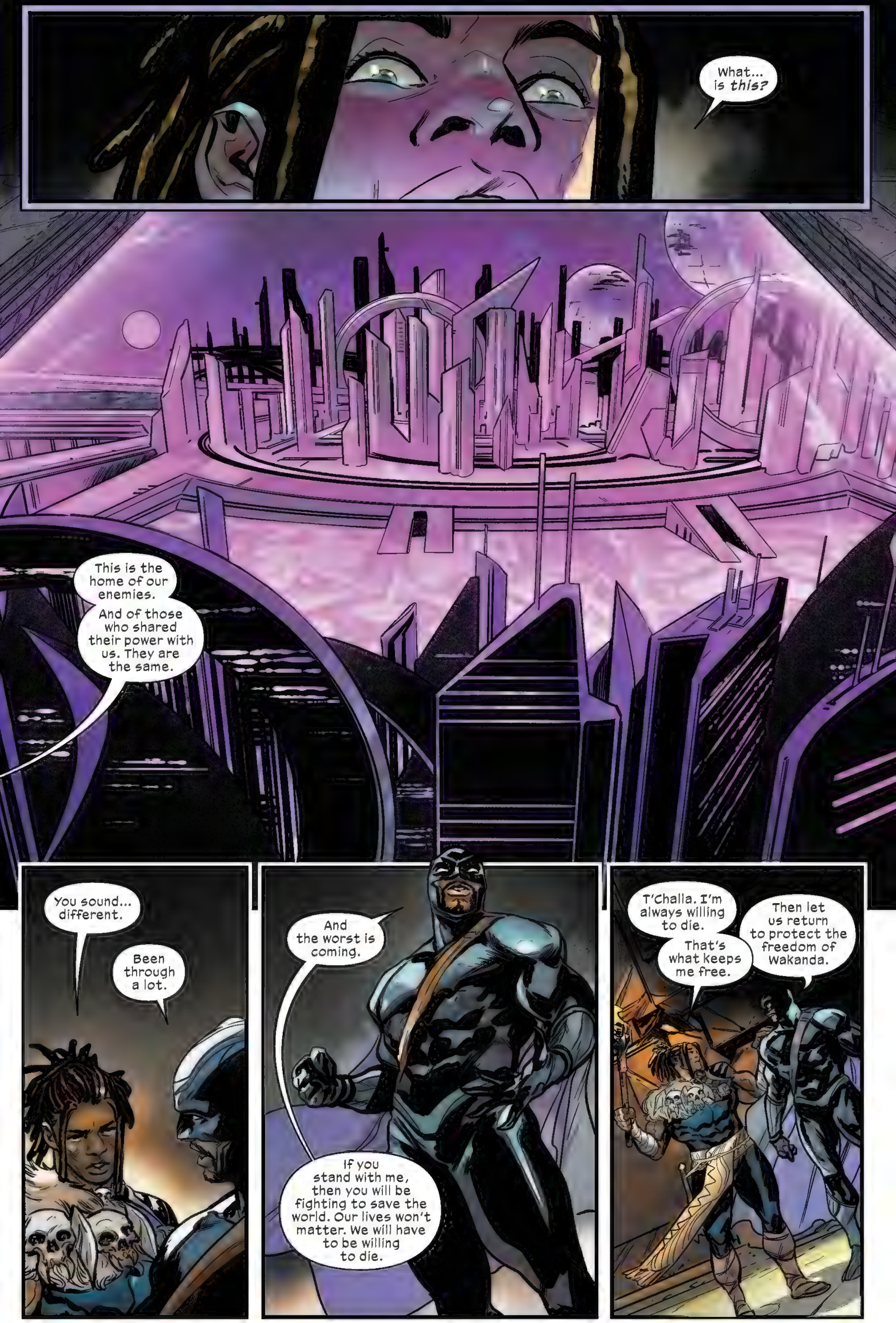

T'Challa...?
Look...
...more have assembled!
RRREEEEEEEK
KRRSHHEEEEK

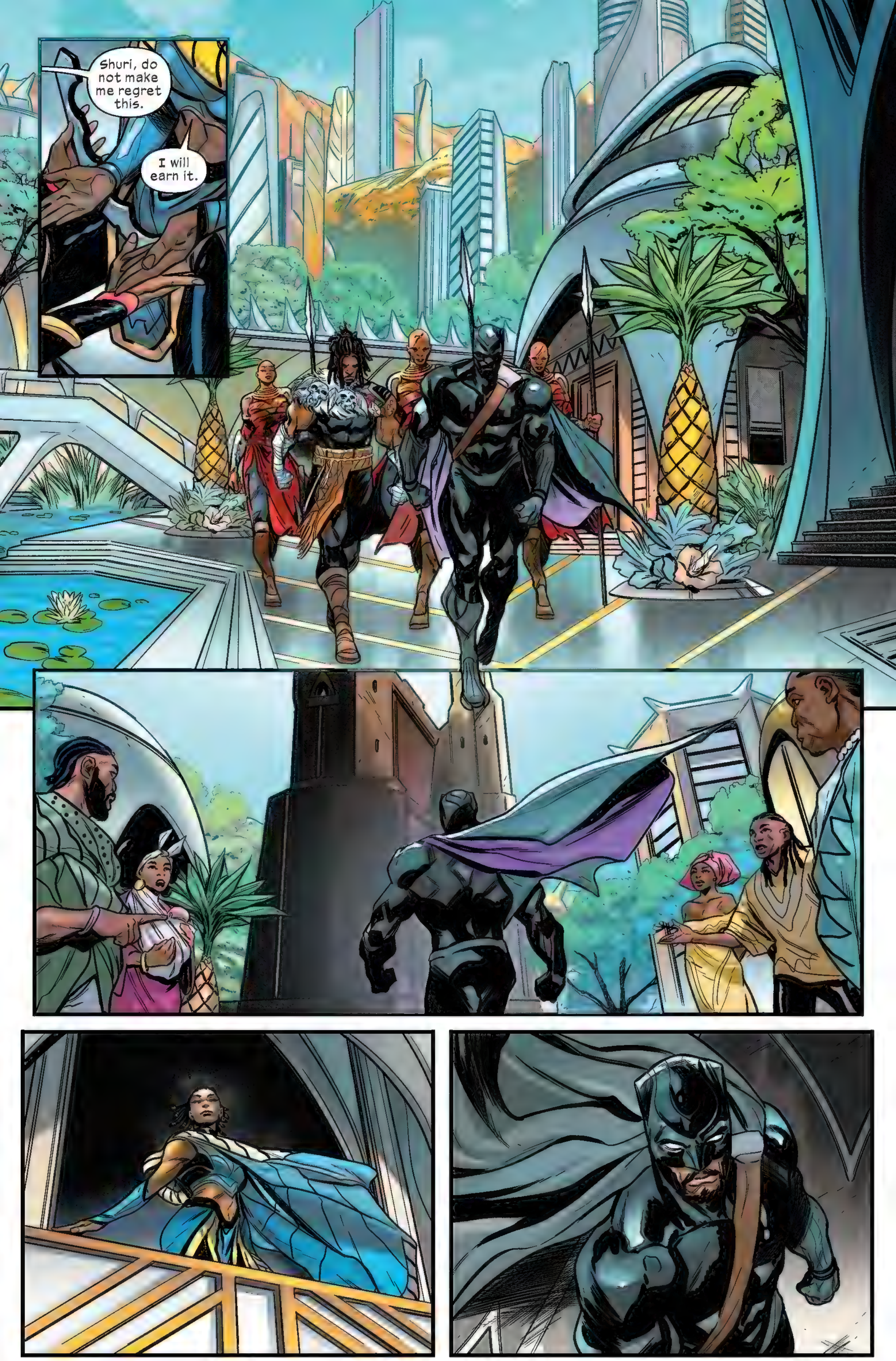

While you were gone, I sat in your fancy chair. Hope you don't mind.
KRAK
I'm sure you had a good reason, Erik.
You can have it back. Being a king doesn't look good on me.
Too many rules.
You know what they say about rules--
You missed that one, Black Panther.
You're welcome.

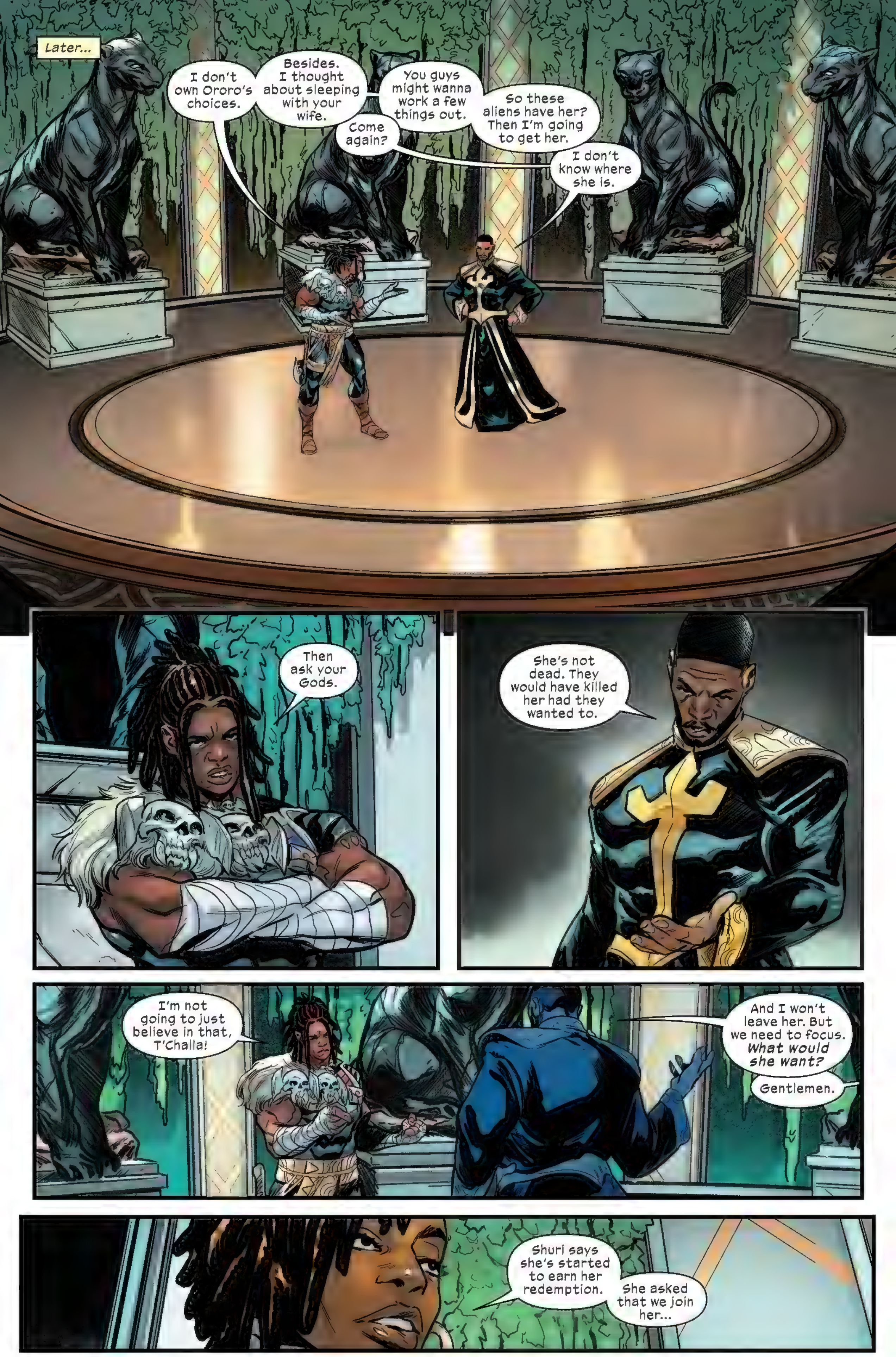

Appreciated.
Could you always do that sonic boom thing, or is this some new "back from exile" thing?
Do you believe in our pantheon of Gods?
Not really.
Then my answer would do you little good.
Those biomechs were protecting whatever's behind this.
Sure...
But how do *you* know what's behind it?

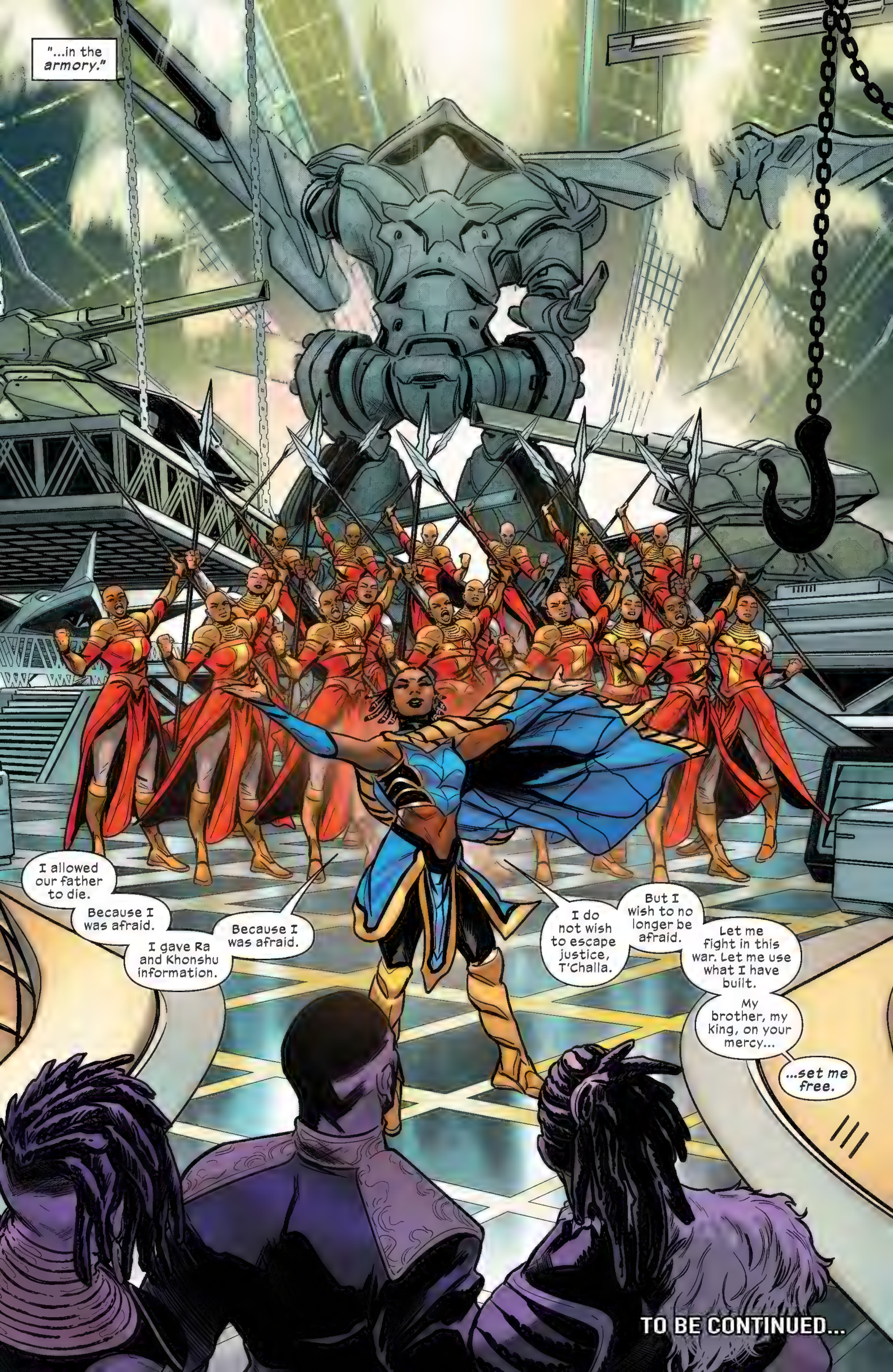

Dora Milaje on comms.
Your brother is alive.
Then I will face his judgment.
And you must use yours. We are on the eve of war.
Can we stop them?
These... *beings* think they can simply walk through Wakanda like a door.
So let them find us *unbound*.
Our warriors. Our weapons. Our will.
Awaken it *all*.


"And let them see what we have done with their precious vibranium."
Erik, today, we might challenge your lack of belief.
What is that?
Vibranium held in liquid form. A feat I once thought impossible.
The Western Europeans used to scry with black mirrors in the dark.
To see beyond sight.
Here we can do the same. Because a Goddess told me so.


What... is *this?*
This is the home of our enemies.
And of those who shared their power with us. They are the same.
You sound... different.
Been through a lot.
And the worst is coming.
If you stand with me, then you will be fighting to save the world. Our lives won't matter. We will have to be willing to die.
T'Challa. I'm always willing to die.
That's what keeps me free.
Then let us return to protect the freedom of Wakanda.


Shuri, do not make me regret this.
I will earn it.


Later...
I don't own Ororo's choices.
Besides. I thought about sleeping with your wife.
You guys might wanna work a few things out.
Come again?
So these aliens have her? Then I'm going to get her.
I don't know where she is.
Then ask your Gods.
She's not dead. They would have killed her had they wanted to.
I'm not going to just believe in that, T'Challa!
And I won't leave her. But we need to focus. *What would she want?*
Gentlemen.
Shuri says she's started to earn her redemption.
She asked that we join her...


"...in the *armory.*"
I allowed our father to die.
Because I was afraid.
I gave Ra and Khonshu information.
Because I was afraid.
I do not wish to escape justice, T'Challa.
But I wish to no longer be afraid.
Let me fight in this war. Let me use what I have built.
My brother, my king, on your mercy...
...set me free.
TO BE CONTINUED...

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ARTIST: **CARLOS NIETO**

COLOR ARTIST: **DAVID CURIEL**
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COVER ARTISTS: **MEGHAN HETRICK; GODTAIL**

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BLACK PANTHER CREATED BY **STAN LEE** & **JACK KIRBY**

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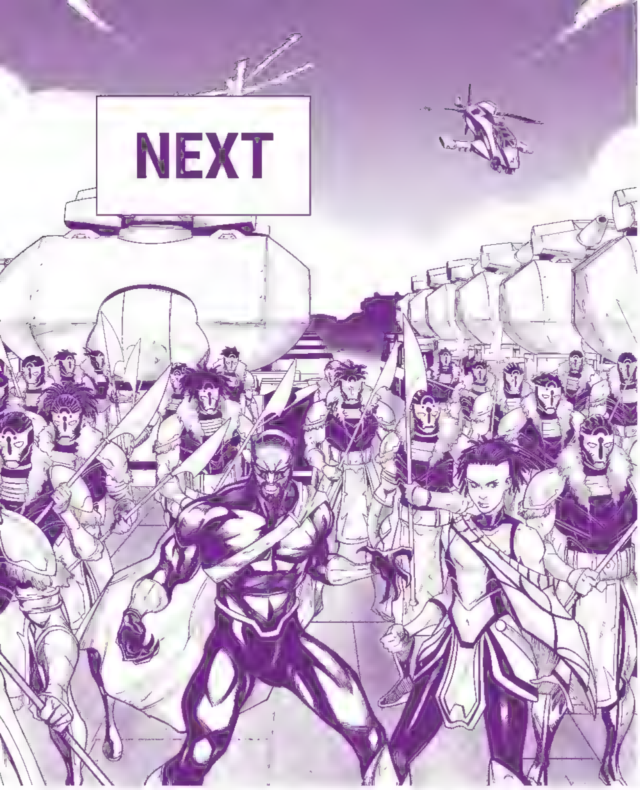

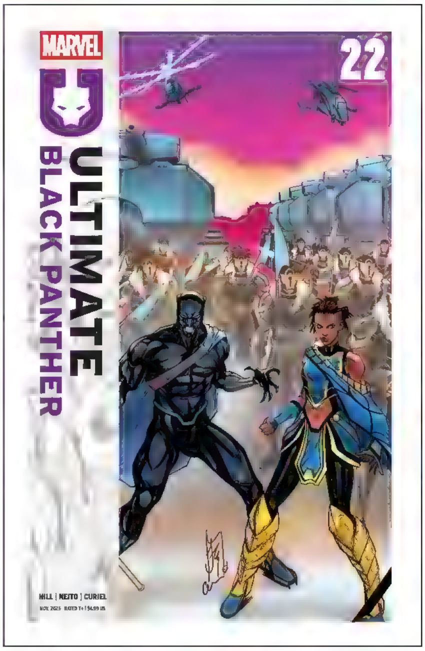
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ULTIMATE
BLACK PANTHER
22
HILL | NEJTO | CURIEL

ON SALE IN **NOVEMBER**

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ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN: INCURSION #5

BY **DENIZ CAMP**, **CODY ZIGLAR**
& **JONAS SCHARF**

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU! EMAIL US AT **ULTIMATEOFFICE@MARVEL.COM** AND MARK YOUR LETTERS **"OKAY TO PRINT"**!

20

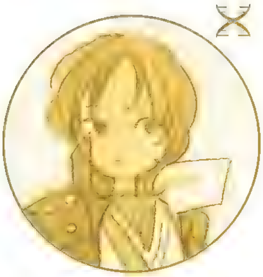
A diabolical genius known as **THE MAKER** used time travel to create his ideal Earth by systematically preventing anyone from ever becoming a super hero—except for those on his secret **MAKER'S COUNCIL**, whom he stationed to rule over different regions of the world.

HI NO KUNI ("LAND OF THE SUN") became one of two hotbeds for mutant activity, but civilians were unaware until social media exploded with the story of **CHILDREN OF THE ATOM**, a cult for mutant youth led by a zealot known as **MAESTER**.

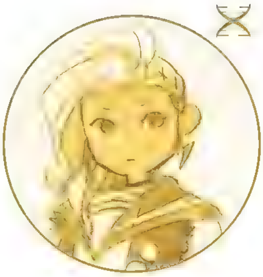
MEI IGARASHI (MAYSTORM) and her masked **X-MEN** fought **SURGE** and the Children of the Atom, who had been powered up by **MY-X**. But then Maester, himself powered up by MY-X, arrived and would have defeated the X-Men if not for the timely arrival of **HISAKO ICHIKI (ARMOR)**. **SHINOBU KAGEYAMA (SHADOW KING)** sensed that MY-X originated from his powers, so he took out Maester and ended the fight.

ULTIMATE X-MEN

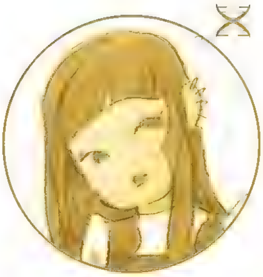
CAST:



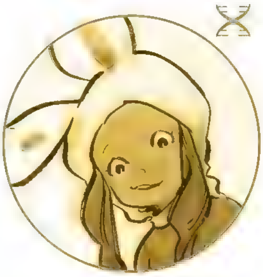
HISAKO ICHIKI
ARMOR



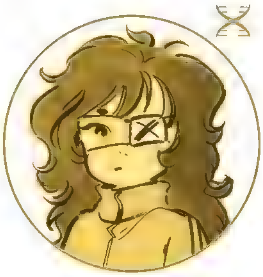
MEI IGARASHI
MAYSTORM



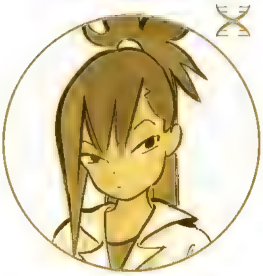
NICO MINORU
FLEDGLING PSYCHIC



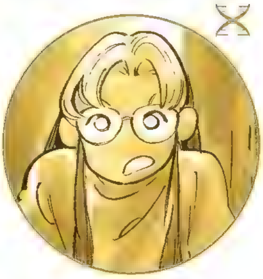
MORI
NICO'S FRIEND



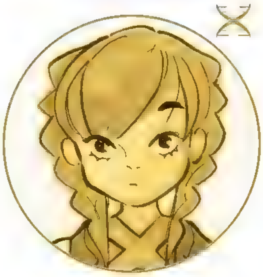
NATSU TSUKISHIMA
NICO'S FRIEND



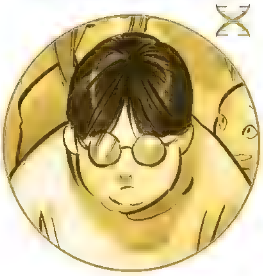
KANON SAINOUCHI
PSYLOCKE



FUTABA
TATSUYA'S EX
AND ALLY

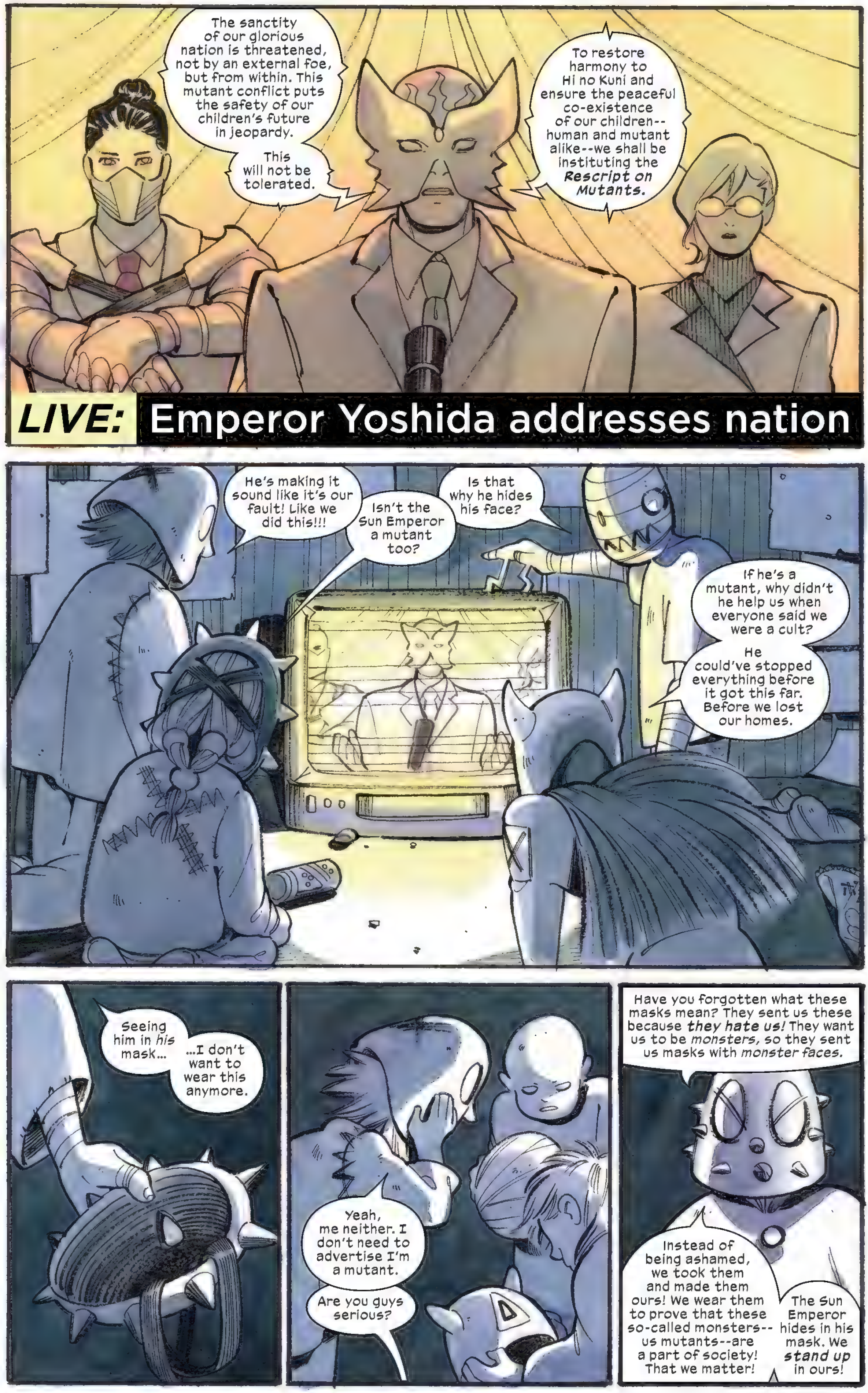


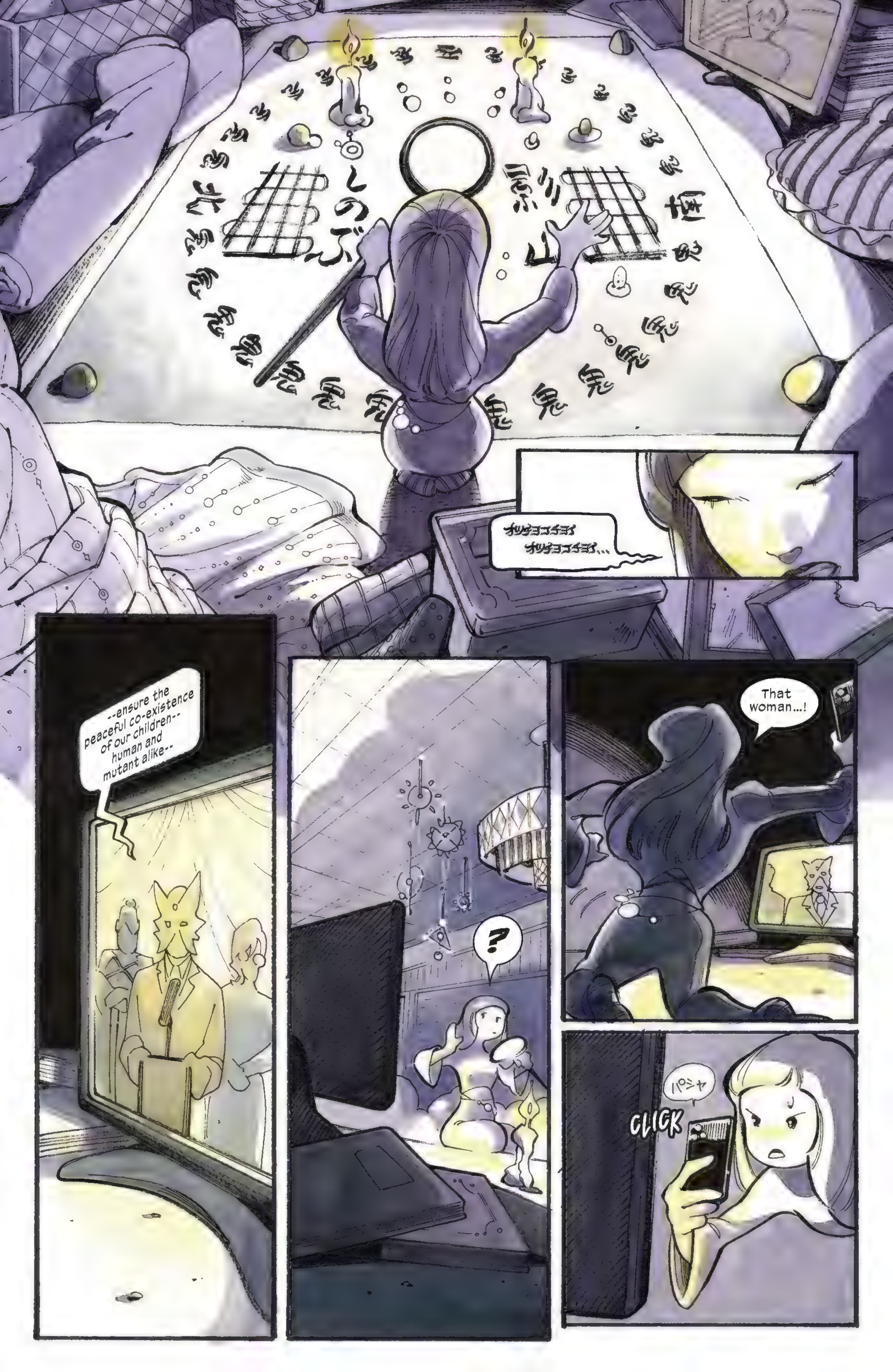
NORIKO ASHIDA
SURGE

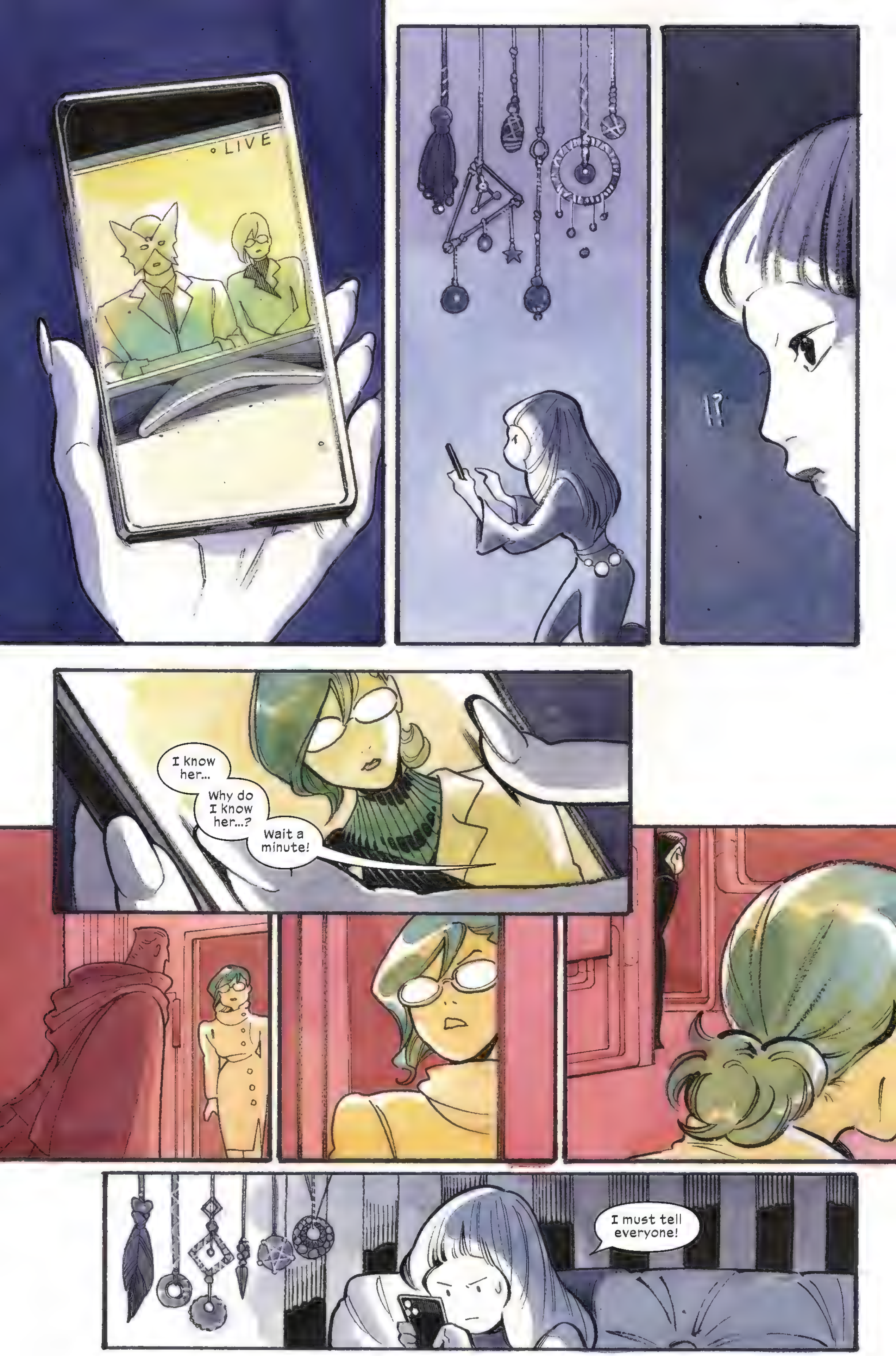


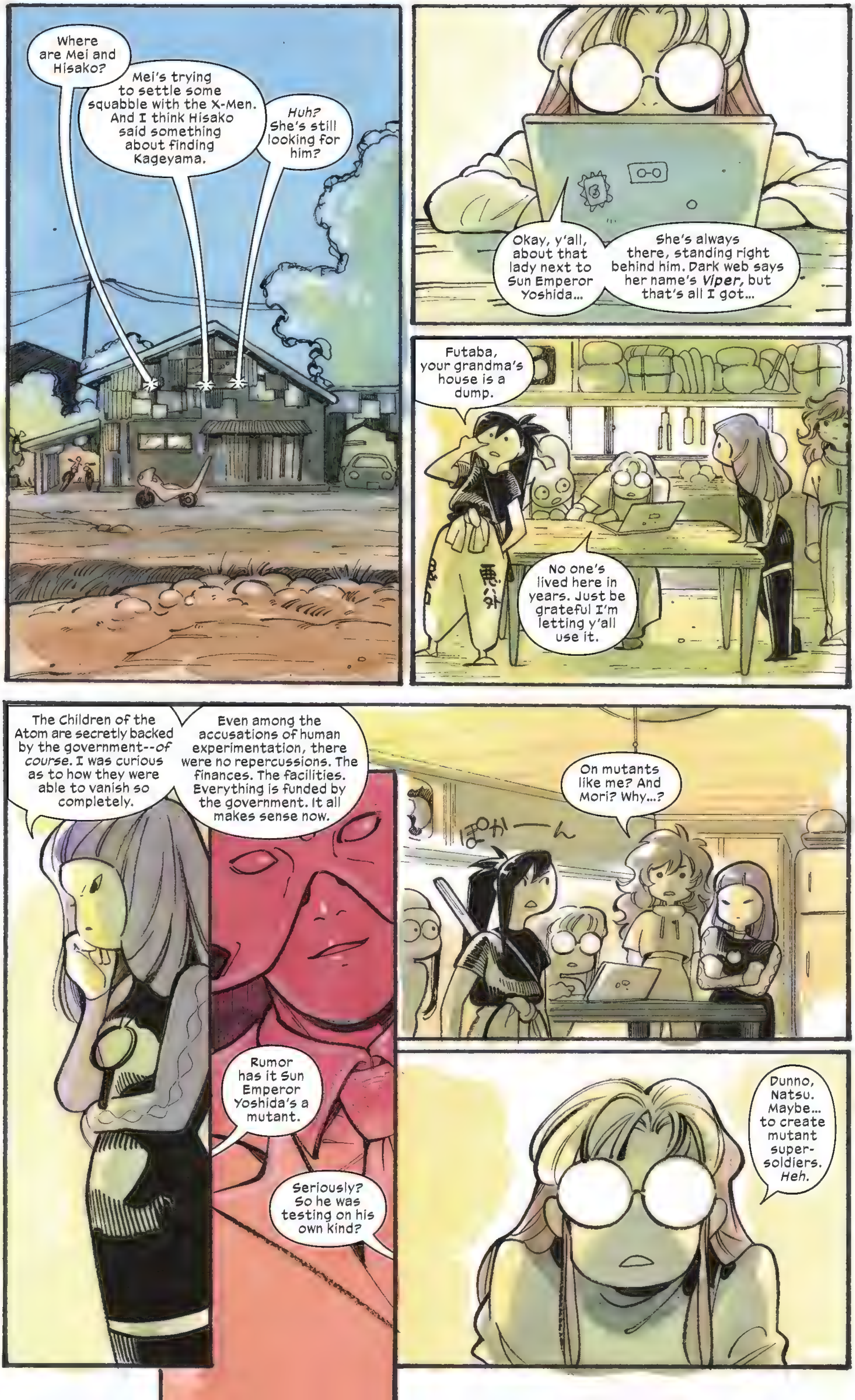
SHINOBU KAGEYAMA
SHADOW KING

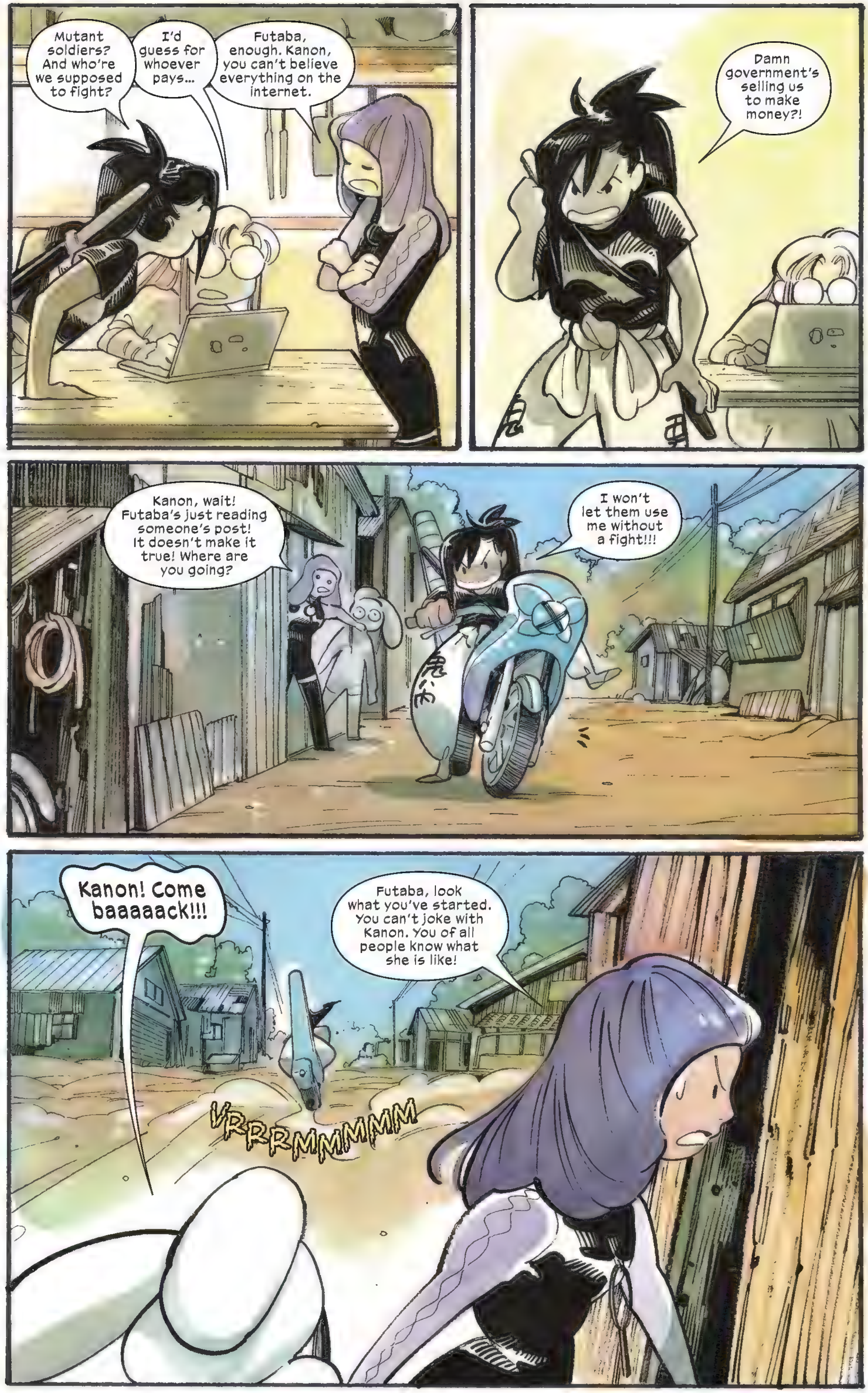
OCTOBER 2025

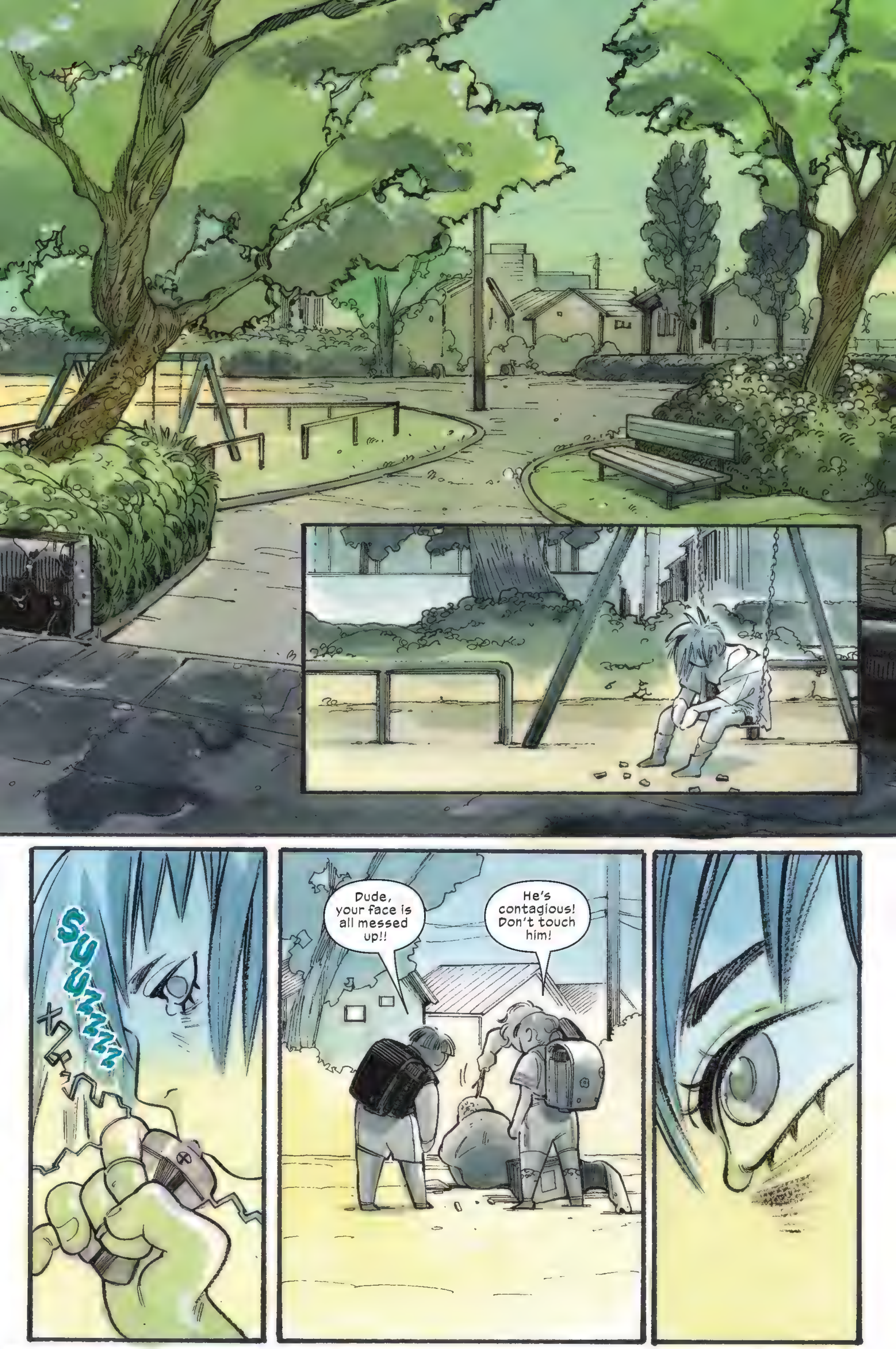

The sanctity of our glorious nation is threatened, not by an external foe, but from within. This mutant conflict puts the safety of our children's future in jeopardy.
This will not be tolerated.
To restore harmony to Hi no Kuni and ensure the peaceful co-existence of our children--human and mutant alike--we shall be instituting the *Rescript on Mutants.*
LIVE: Emperor Yoshida addresses nation
He's making it sound like it's our fault! Like we did this!!!
Isn't the Sun Emperor a mutant too?
Is that why he hides his face?
If he's a mutant, why didn't he help us when everyone said we were a cult?
He could've stopped everything before it got this far. Before we lost our homes.
Seeing him in *his* mask...
...I don't want to wear this anymore.
Yeah, me neither. I don't need to advertise I'm a mutant.
Are you guys serious?
Have you forgotten what these masks mean? They sent us these because *they hate us!* They want us to be *monsters,* so they sent us masks with *monster faces.*
Instead of being ashamed, we took them and made them ours! We wear them to prove that these so-called monsters--us mutants--are a part of society! That we matter!
The Sun Emperor hides in his mask. We *stand up* in ours!

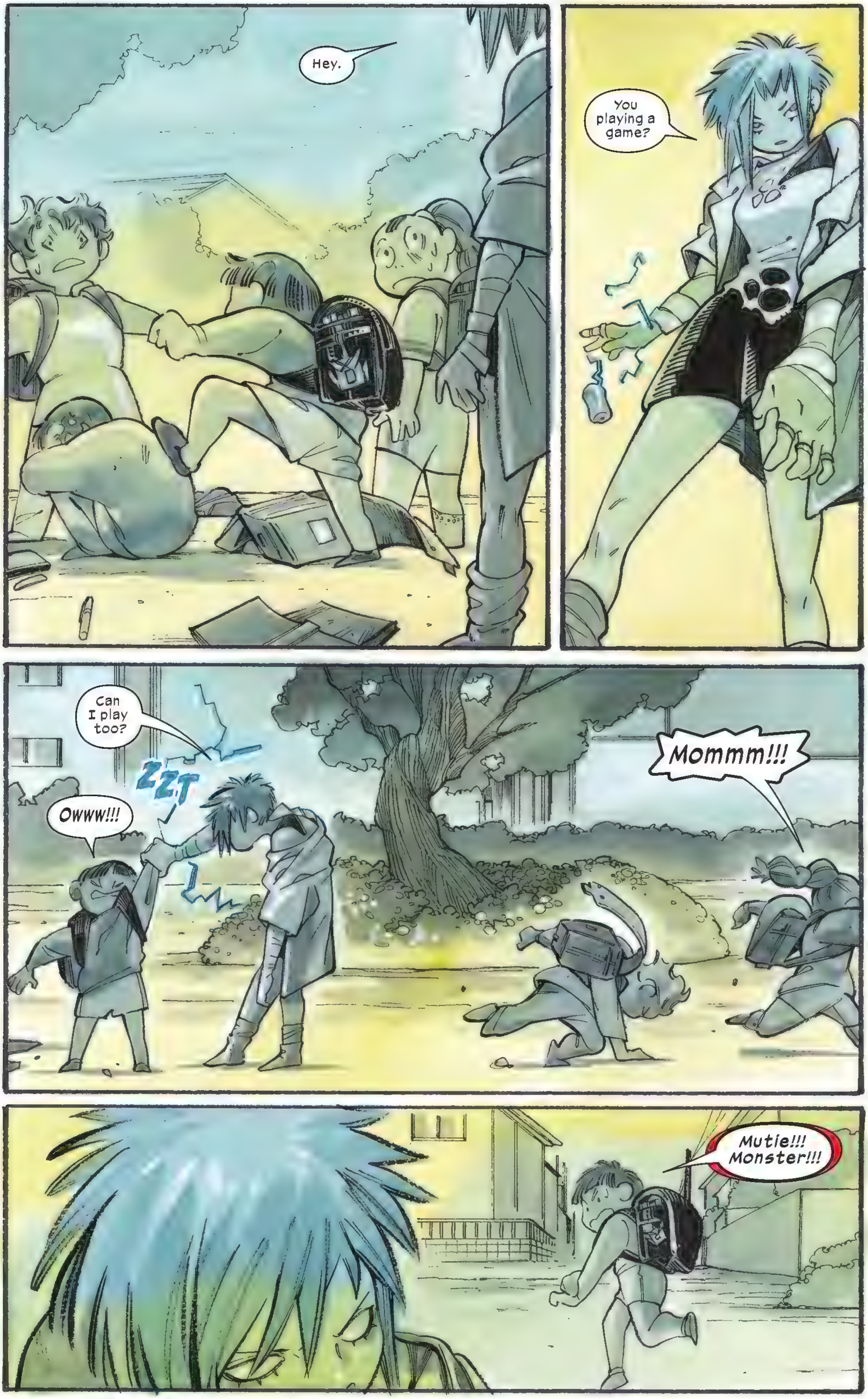

しのぶ
オツチヨコチヨイ オツチヨコチヨイ…
--ensure the peaceful co-existence of our children--human and mutant alike--
?
That woman...!
パシャ
CLICK

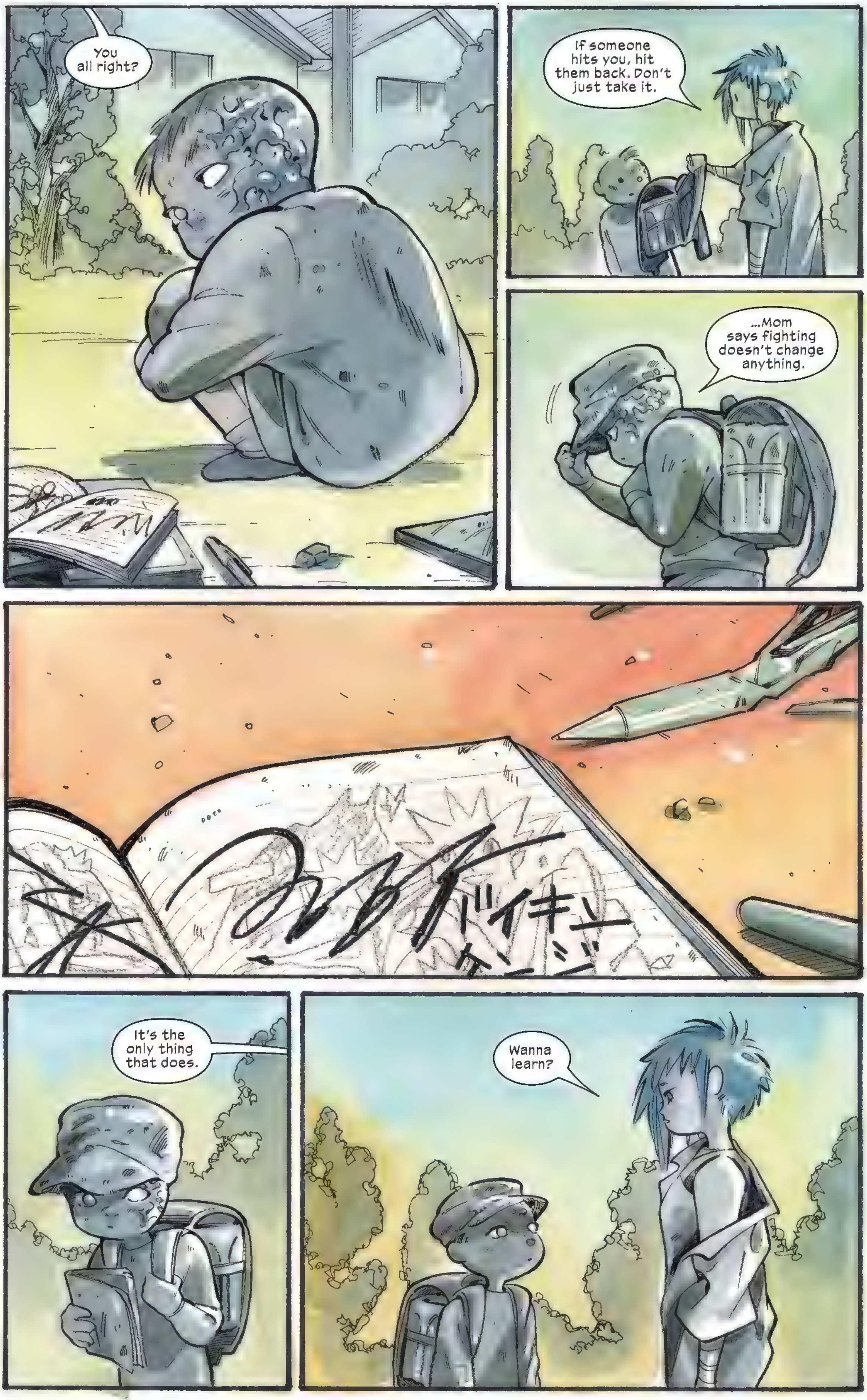

LIVE
!?
I know her...
Why do I know her...?
Wait a minute!
I must tell everyone!

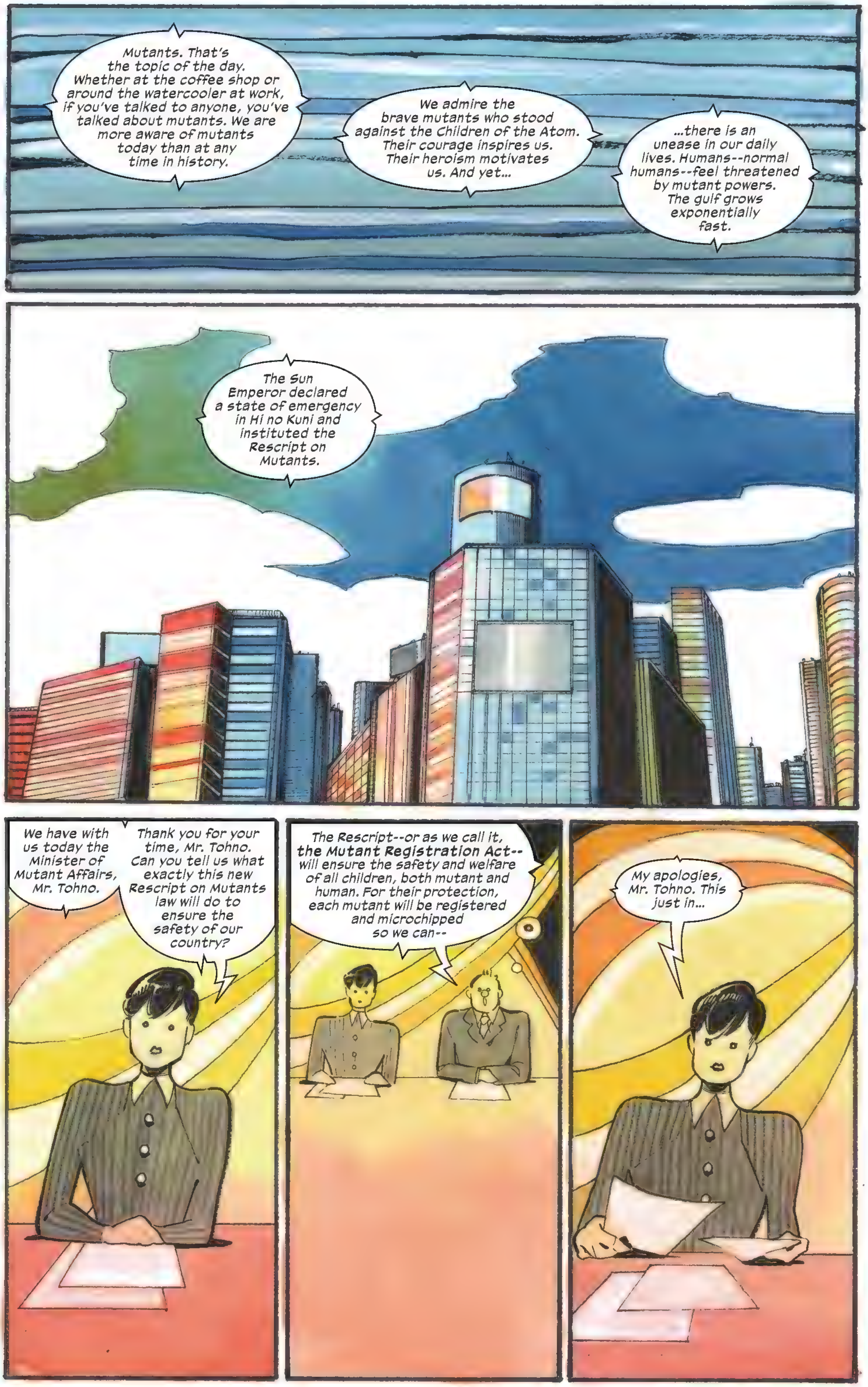

Where are Mei and Hisako?
Mei's trying to settle some squabble with the X-Men. And I think Hisako said something about finding Kageyama.
Huh? She's still looking for him?
Okay, y'all, about that lady next to Sun Emperor Yoshida...
She's always there, standing right behind him. Dark web says her name's *Viper,* but that's all I got...
Futaba, your grandma's house is a dump.
No one's lived here in years. Just be grateful I'm letting y'all use it.
悪ハ外
The Children of the Atom are secretly backed by the government--*of course.* I was curious as to how they were able to vanish so completely.
Even among the accusations of human experimentation, there were no repercussions. The finances. The facilities. Everything is funded by the government. It all makes sense now.
Rumor has it Sun Emperor Yoshida's a mutant.
Seriously? So he was testing on his own kind?
On mutants like me? And Mori? Why...?
ぽかーん
Dunno, Natsu. Maybe... to create mutant super-soldiers. *Heh.*

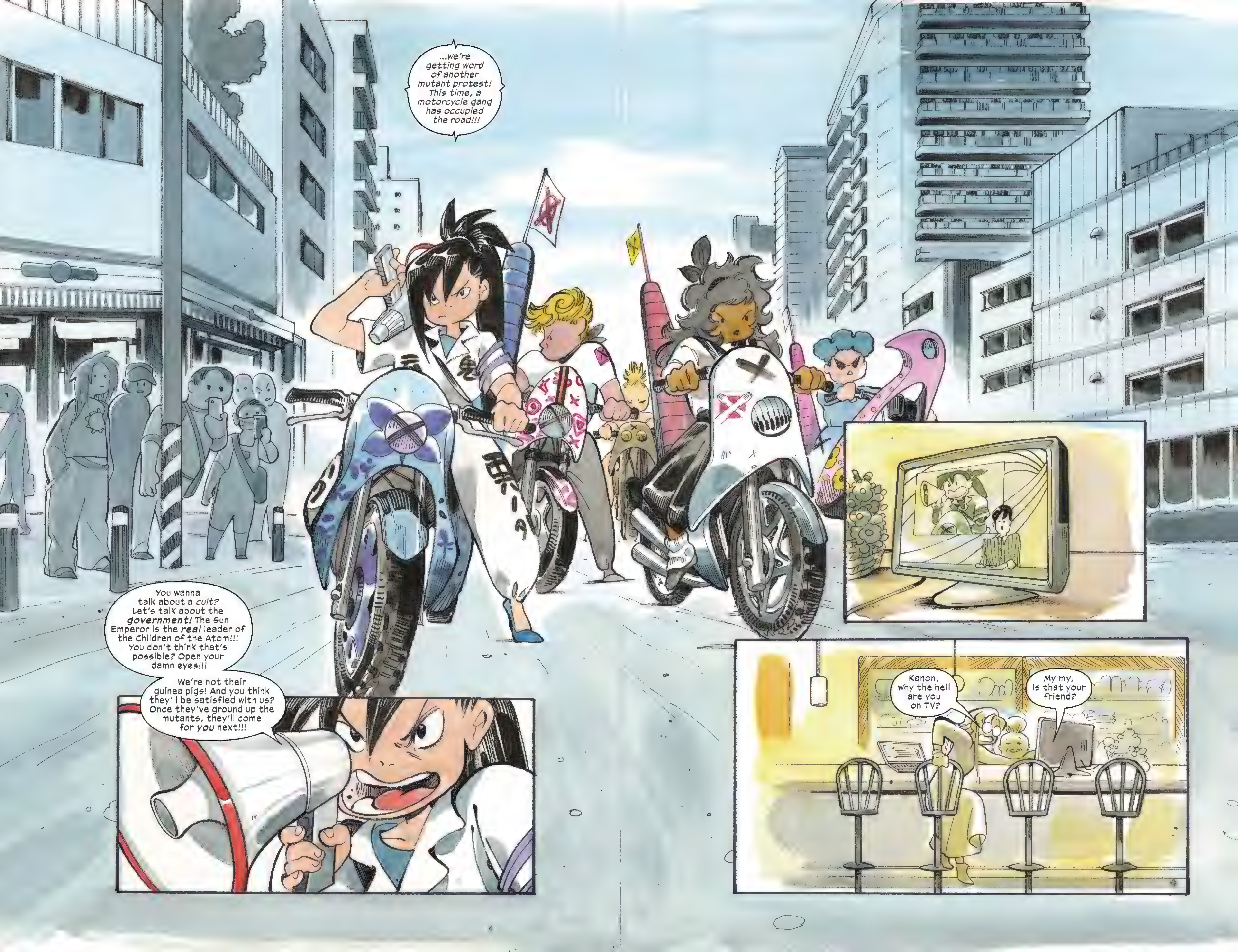

Mutant soldiers? And who're we supposed to fight?
I'd guess for whoever pays...
Futaba, enough. Kanon, you can't believe everything on the internet.
Damn government's selling us to make money?!
Kanon, wait! Futaba's just reading someone's post! It doesn't make it true! Where are you going?
I won't let them use me without a fight!!!
Kanon! Come baaaaack!!!
Futaba, look what you've started. You can't joke with Kanon. You of all people know what she is like!
VRRRMMMMM

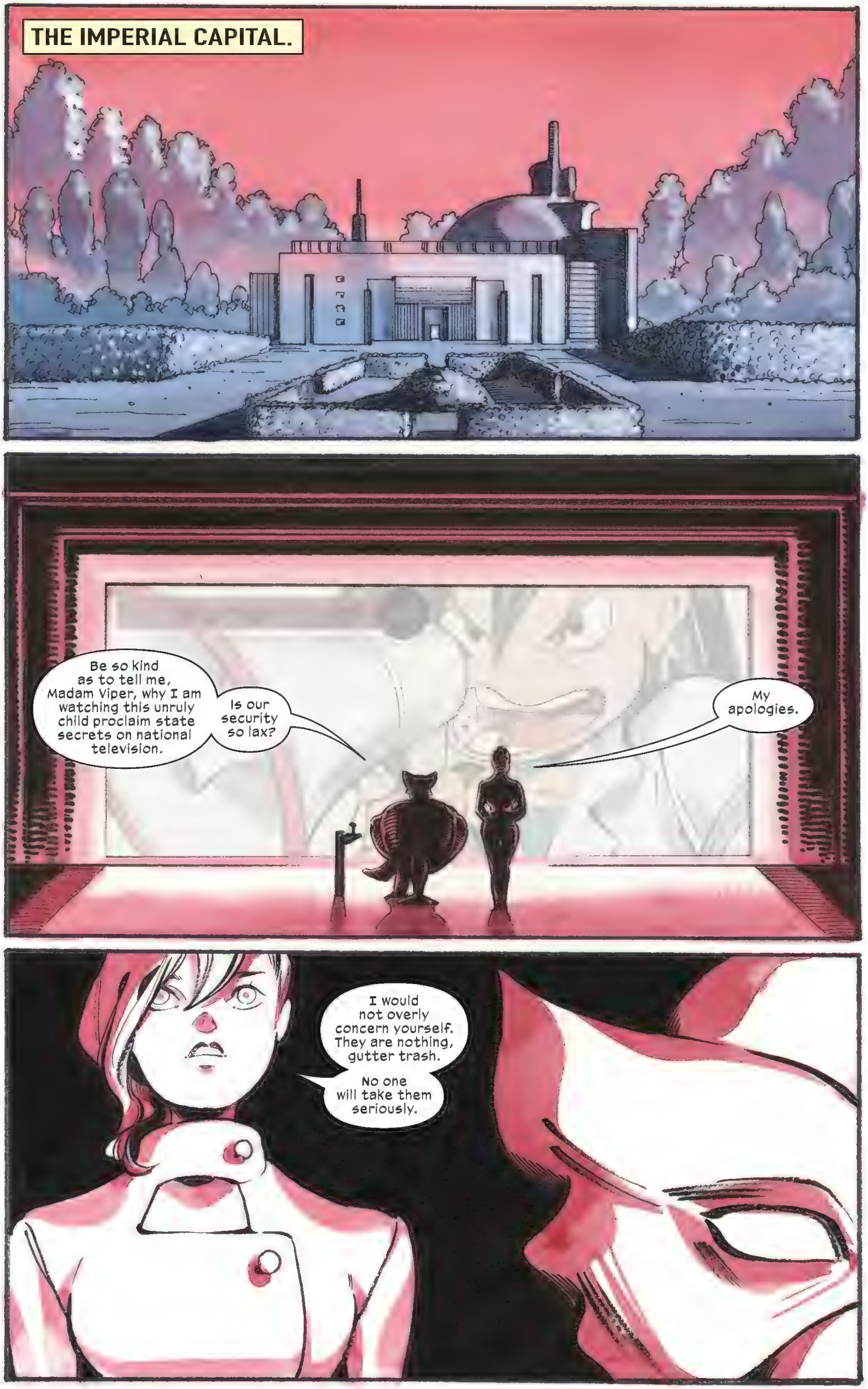

SUUZZZZ
Dude, your face is all messed up!!
He's contagious! Don't touch him!

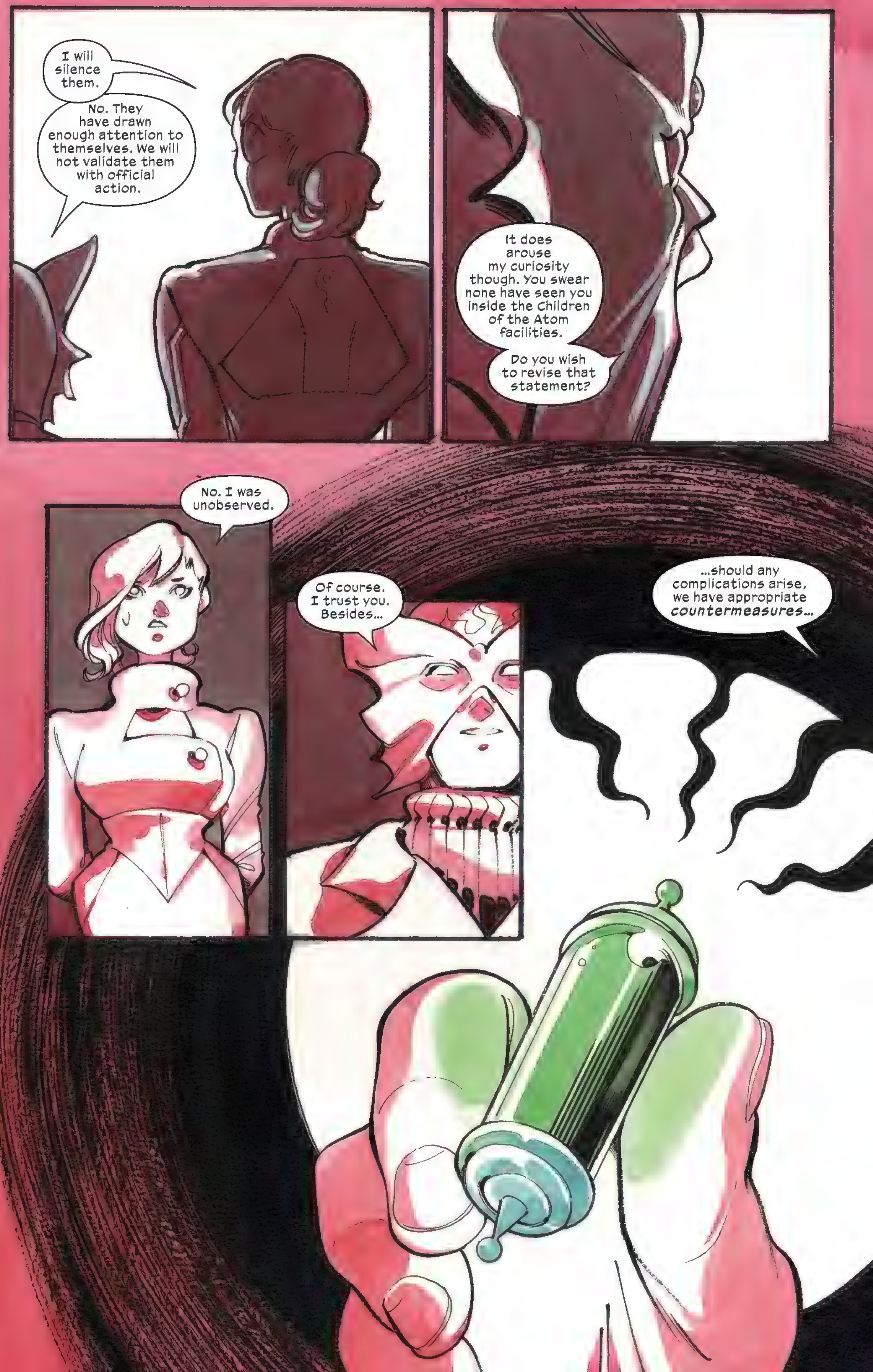

Hey.
You playing a game?
Can I play too?
ZZT
Owww!!!
Mommm!!!
Mutie!!! Monster!!!

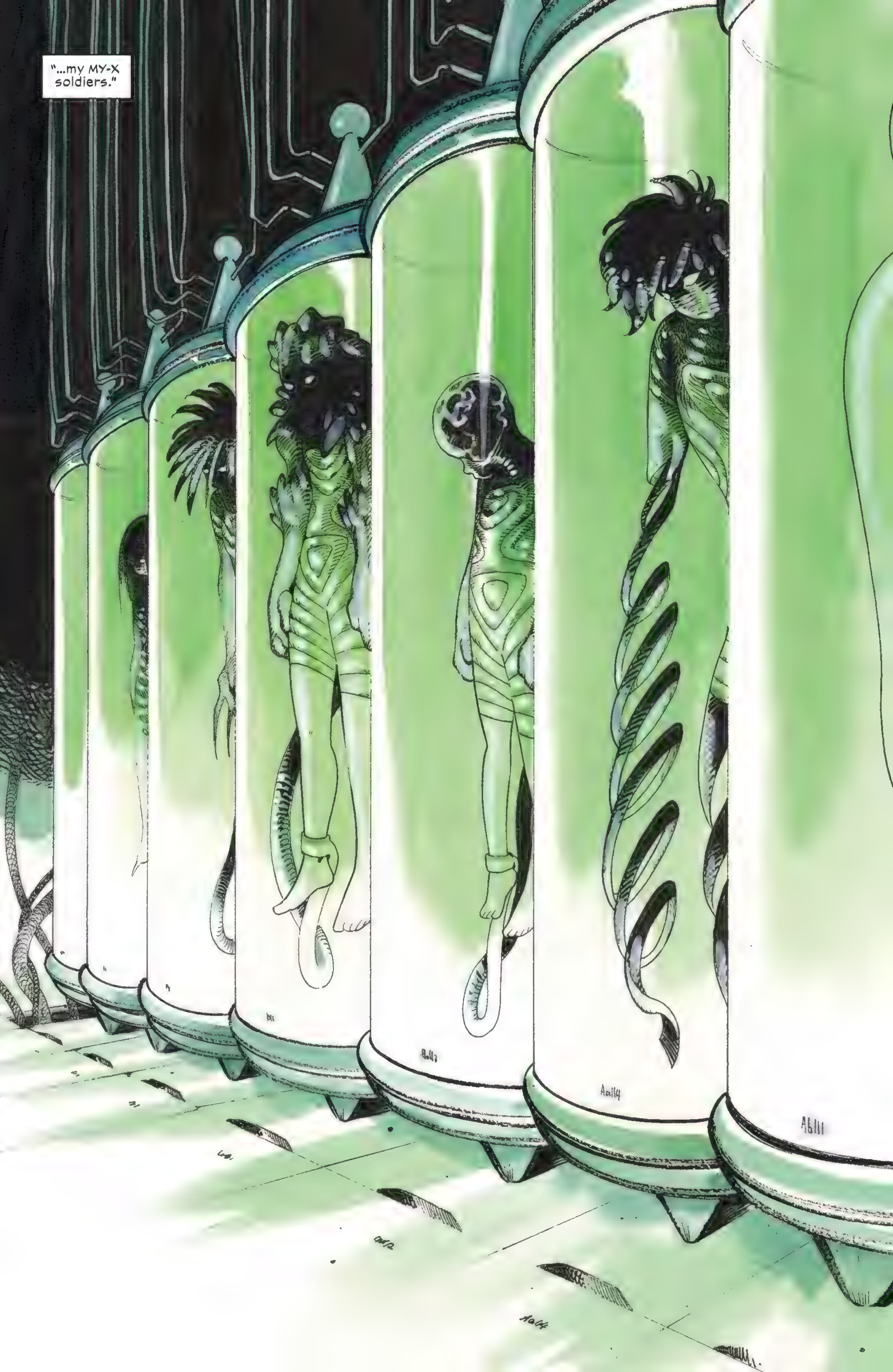

You all right?
If someone hits you, hit them back. Don't just take it.
...Mom says fighting doesn't change anything.
バイキン
It's the only thing that does.
Wanna learn?

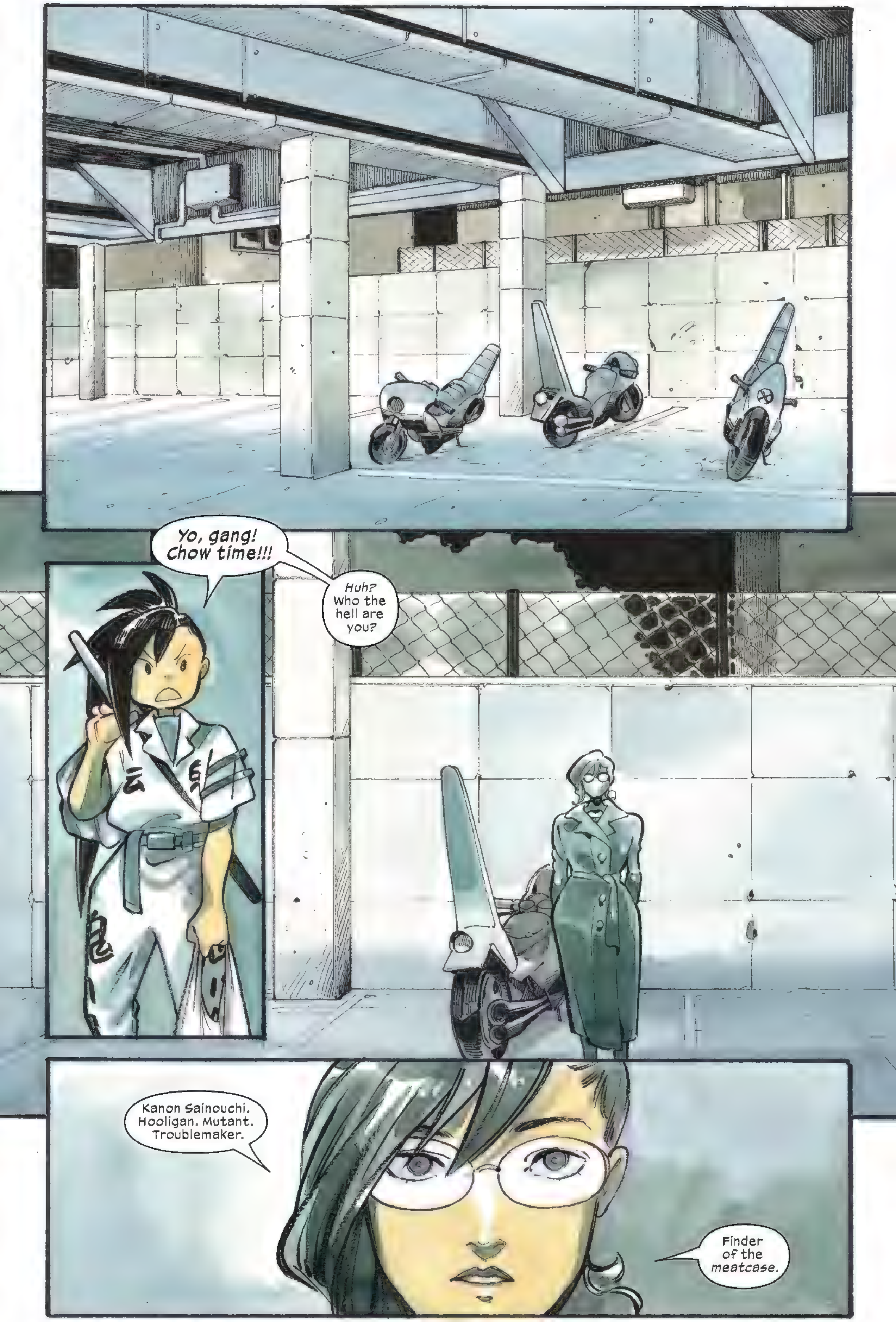

Mutants. That's the topic of the day. Whether at the coffee shop or around the watercooler at work, if you've talked to anyone, you've talked about mutants. We are more aware of mutants today than at any time in history.
We admire the brave mutants who stood against the Children of the Atom. Their courage inspires us. Their heroism motivates us. And yet...
...there is an unease in our daily lives. Humans--normal humans--feel threatened by mutant powers. The gulf grows exponentially fast.
The Sun Emperor declared a state of emergency in Hi no Kuni and instituted the Rescript on Mutants.
We have with us today the Minister of Mutant Affairs, Mr. Tohno.
Thank you for your time, Mr. Tohno. Can you tell us what exactly this new Rescript on Mutants law will do to ensure the safety of our country?
The Rescript--or as we call it, **the Mutant Registration Act**--will ensure the safety and welfare of all children, both mutant and human. For their protection, each mutant will be registered and microchipped so we can--
My apologies, Mr. Tohno. This just in...

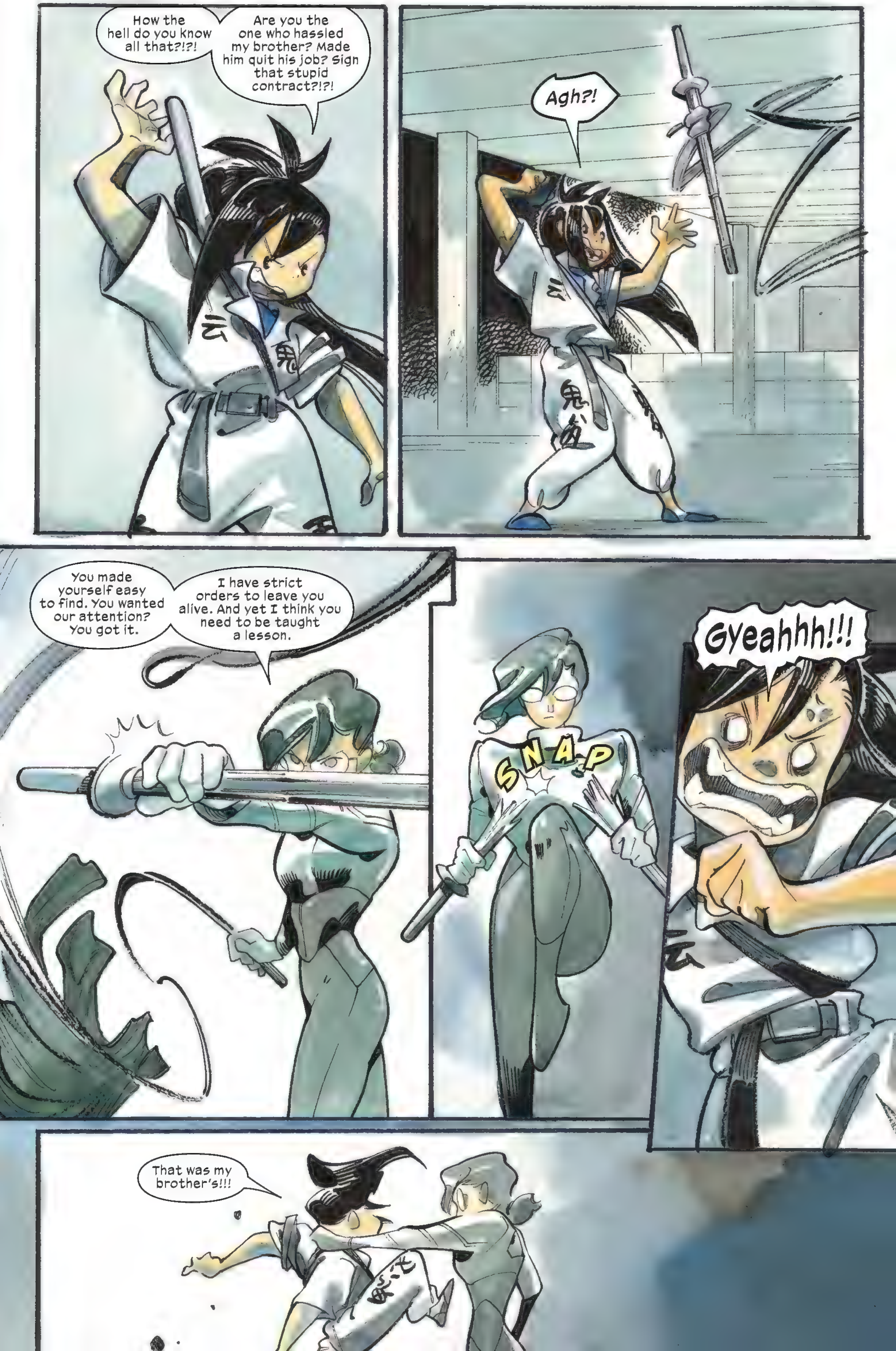

...we're getting word of another mutant protest! This time, a motorcycle gang has occupied the road!!!
You wanna talk about a cult? Let's talk about the government! The Sun Emperor is the real leader of the Children of the Atom!!! You don't think that's possible? Open your damn eyes!!!
We're not their guinea pigs! And you think they'll be satisfied with us? Once they've ground up the mutants, they'll come for you next!!!
Kanon, why the hell are you on TV?
My my, is that your friend?

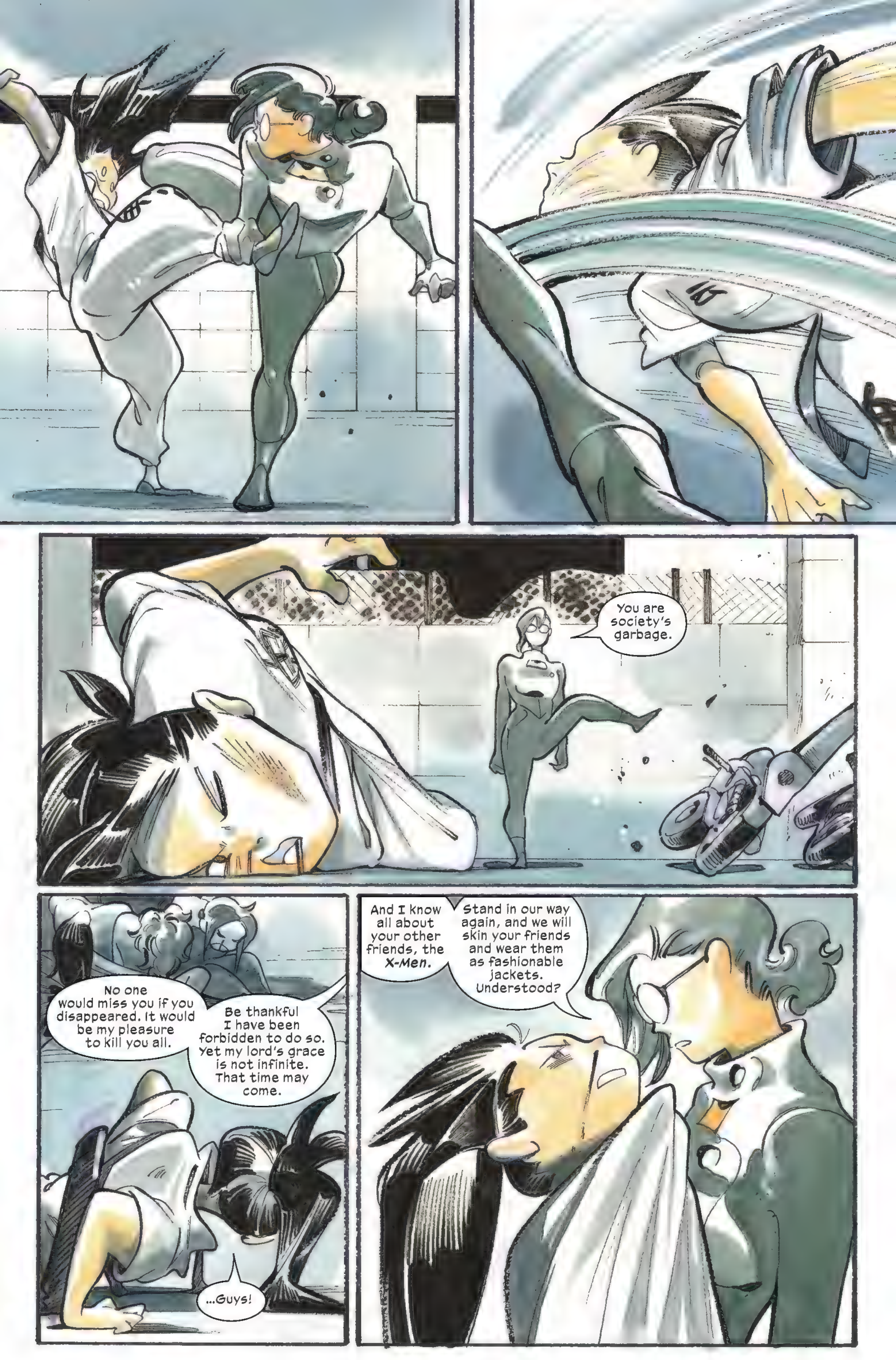

THE IMPERIAL CAPITAL.
Be so kind as to tell me, Madam Viper, why I am watching this unruly child proclaim state secrets on national television.
Is our security so lax?
My apologies.
I would not overly concern yourself. They are nothing, gutter trash.
No one will take them seriously.

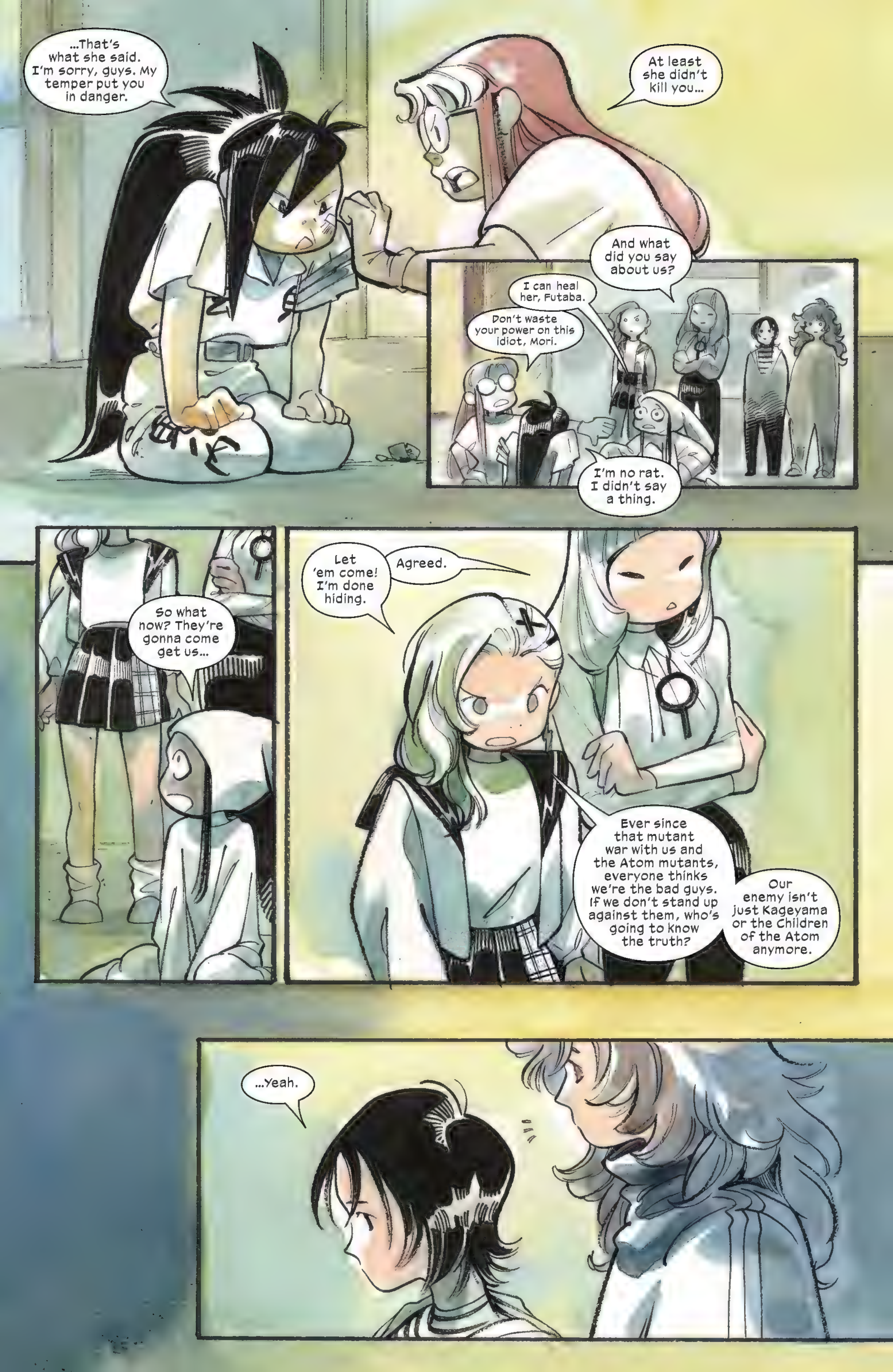

I will silence them.
No. They have drawn enough attention to themselves. We will not validate them with official action.
It does arouse my curiosity though. You swear none have seen you inside the Children of the Atom facilities.
Do you wish to revise that statement?
No. I was unobserved.
Of course. I trust you. Besides...
...should any complications arise, we have appropriate *countermeasures*...

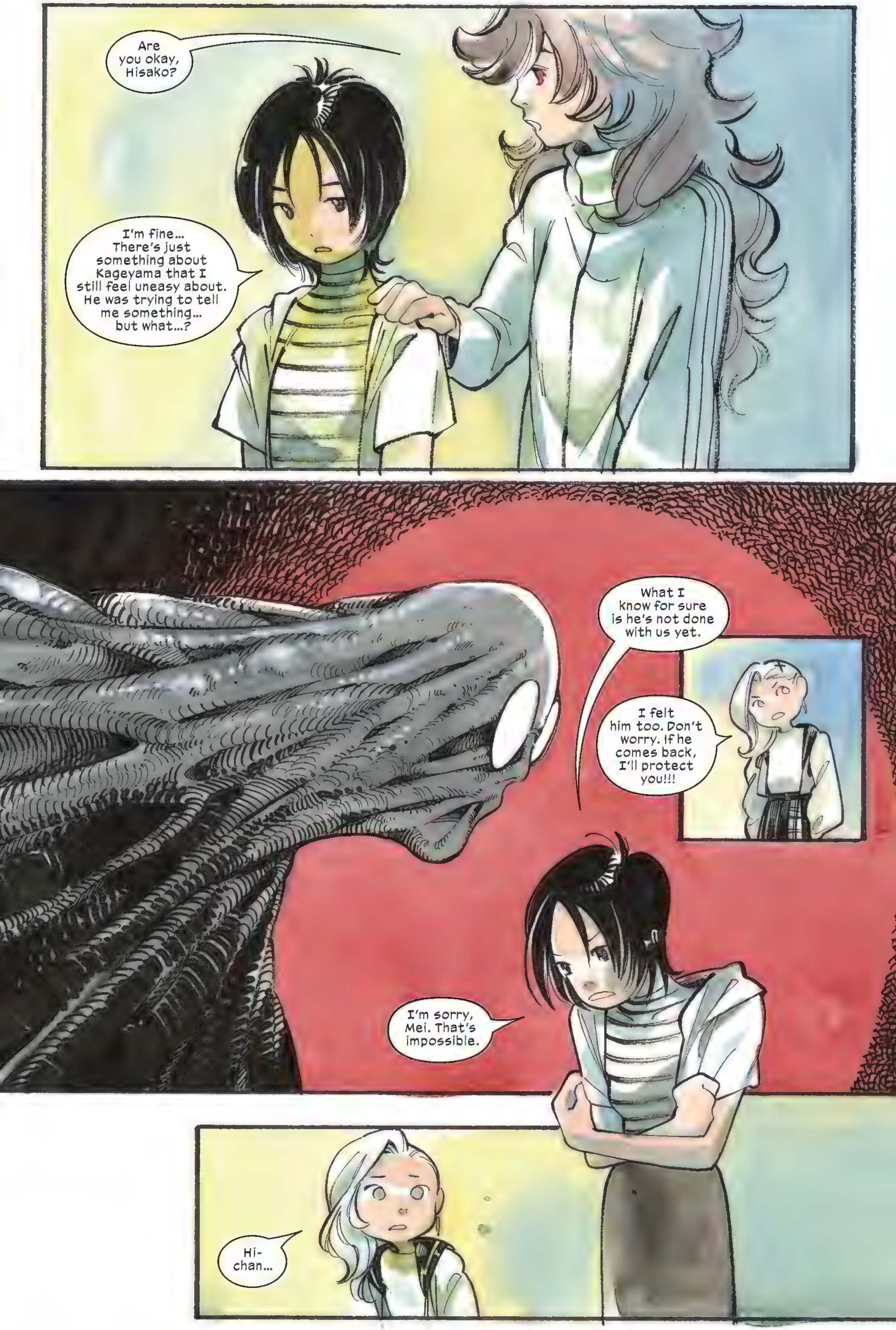

"...my MY-X soldiers."
Aa114
Ab111

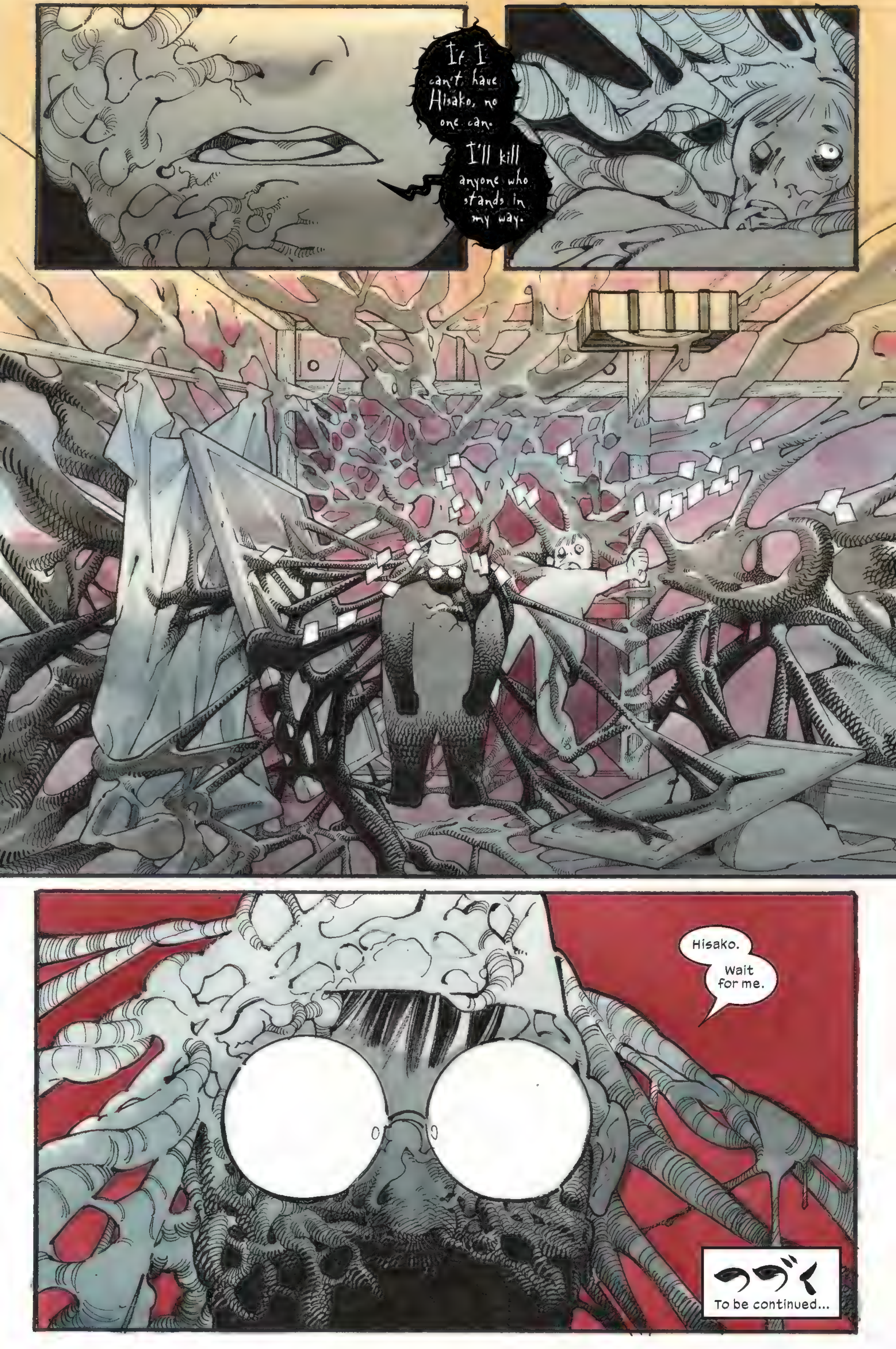

Yo, gang! Chow time!!!
Huh? Who the hell are you?
Kanon Sainouchi. Hooligan. Mutant. Troublemaker.
Finder of the *meatcase.*


How the hell do you know all that?!?!
Are you the one who hassled my brother? Made him quit his job? Sign that stupid contract?!?!
Agh?!
You made yourself easy to find. You wanted our attention? You got it.
I have strict orders to leave you alive. And yet I think you need to be taught a lesson.
SNAP
Gyeahhh!!!
That was my brother's!!!


You are society's garbage.
No one would miss you if you disappeared. It would be my pleasure to kill you all.
Be thankful I have been forbidden to do so. Yet my lord's grace is not infinite. That time may come.
...Guys!
And I know all about your other friends, the *X-Men*.
Stand in our way again, and we will skin your friends and wear them as fashionable jackets. Understood?


...That's what she said. I'm sorry, guys. My temper put you in danger.
At least she didn't kill you...
And what did you say about us?
I can heal her, Futaba.
Don't waste your power on this idiot, Mori.
I'm no rat. I didn't say a thing.
So what now? They're gonna come get us...
Let 'em come! I'm done hiding.
Agreed.
Ever since that mutant war with us and the Atom mutants, everyone thinks we're the bad guys. If we don't stand up against them, who's going to know the truth?
Our enemy isn't just Kageyama or the Children of the Atom anymore.
...Yeah.


Are you okay, Hisako?
I'm fine... There's just something about Kageyama that I still feel uneasy about. He was trying to tell me something... but what...?
What I know for sure is he's not done with us yet.
I felt him too. Don't worry. If he comes back, I'll protect you!!!
I'm sorry, Mei. That's impossible.
Hi-chan...

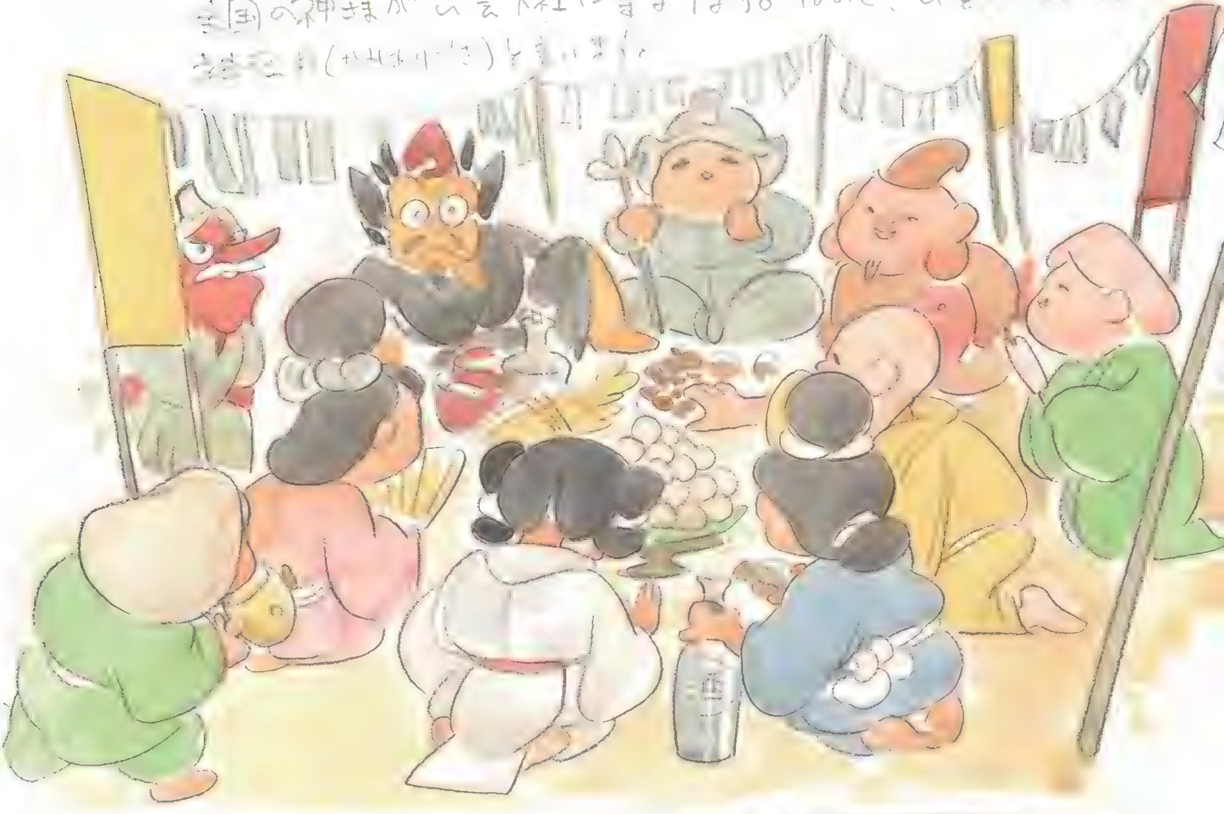

If I can't have Hisako, no one can.
I'll kill anyone who stands in my way.
Hisako.
Wait for me.
つづく
To be continued...

LEXICON

WAFU GETSUMEI

This refers to the traditional Japanese names for the months of the year. For example, October is called KANNAZUKI, the month when gods are absent, as they gather at the IZUMO SHRINE. But for the people of the Izumo region, it is the month when all the gods come there for a meeting, so they call October KAMI ARI ZUKI.

1月は神無月（かんなづき）と呼ばれて、神様たちが不在になる月です。
全国の神さまが出雲大社に集まります。なので、出雲地方では
神在月（かみありづき）と言います。



おそば食べて
帰ろーね。

Let's go eat soba on our way home!

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X-MEN CREATED BY **STAN LEE** & **JACK KIRBY**

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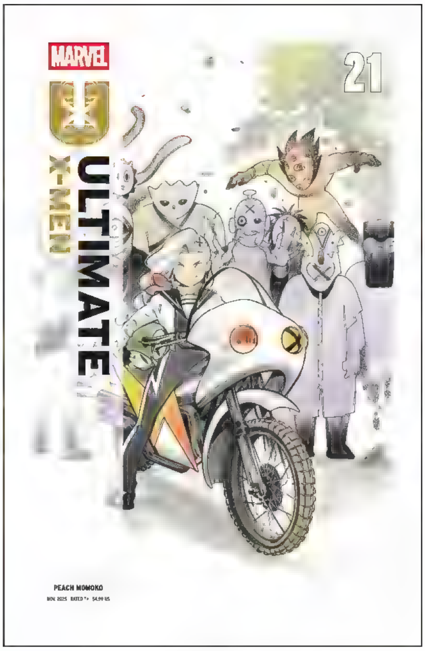
NEXT


MARVEL
ULTIMATE
X-MEN
21
PEACH MOMOKO

ON SALE IN **NOVEMBER**

ON SALE THIS MONTH

MARVEL
ULTIMATE
SPIDER-MAN
22

ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN #22

BY **JONATHAN HICKMAN**
& **MARCO CHECCHETTO**

MARVEL
ULTIMATE
BLACK PANTHER
21

ULTIMATE BLACK PANTHER #21

BY **BRYAN HILL** &
CARLOS NIETO

MARVEL
THE
ULTIMATES
17

ULTIMATES #17

BY **DENIZ CAMP**
& **PHIL NOTO**

MARVEL
ULTIMATE
WOLVERINE
10

ULTIMATE WOLVERINE #10

BY **CHRIS CONDON** &
ALEX LINS

MARVEL
ULTIMATE
SPIDER-MAN: INCURSION
5

ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN: INCURSION #5

BY **DENIZ CAMP**, **CODY ZIGLAR**
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17

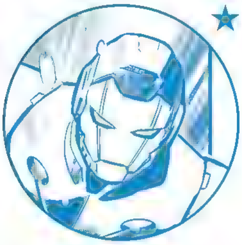
A diabolical genius known as **THE MAKER** used time travel to create his ideal Earth by systematically preventing anyone from ever becoming a super hero and by establishing a secret council of super villains, **THE MAKER'S COUNCIL**, that rules the world from the shadows.

But now the Maker is gone, locked away for the next two months by inventor **HOWARD STARK**. Howard's teenage son, **TONY**, took on the codename **IRON LAD** and began recruiting a network of heroes to fight back against the Maker's Council and prepare for the Maker's return.

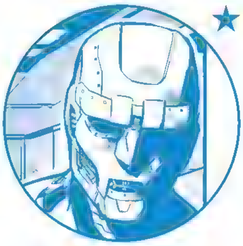
But time is running out. **DOOM**--the man once known as **REED RICHARDS** who was tortured by the Maker until he helped to seal him away--has been instrumental in expanding the **ULTIMATES** to include an army of civilians. But haunted by the life that was stolen from him, Doom's dream has always been to recreate the **FANTASTIC FOUR**...

THE ULTIMATES

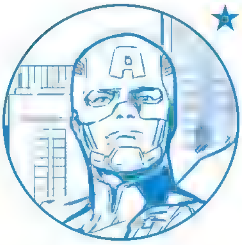
CAST:



IRON LAD
TONY STARK

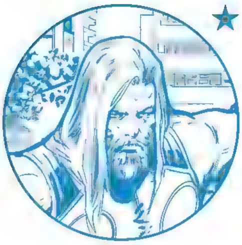


DOOM
REED RICHARDS

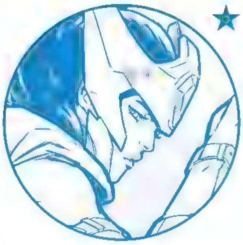


CAPTAIN AMERICA
STEVE ROGERS

HAWKEYE
CHARLI RAMSEY



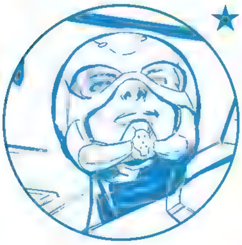
THOR
GOD OF THUNDER



SIF
WARRIOR GODDESS

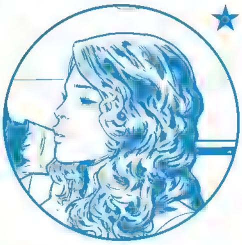
SHE-HULK
LEJORI JOENA ZAKARIA

LUKE CAGE
PRISON REVOLTER



GIANT-MAN
HANK PYM

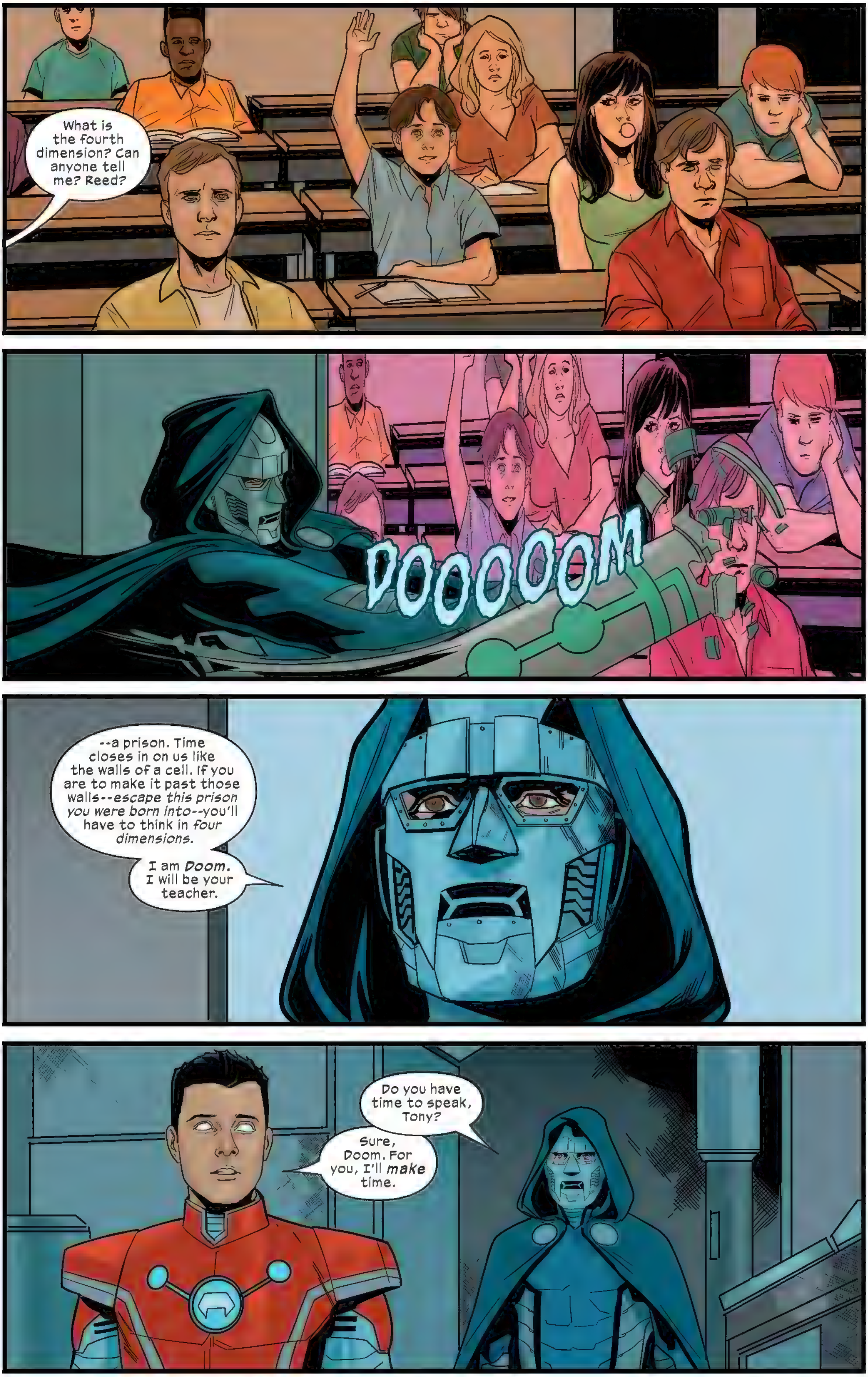
WASP
JANET VAN DYNE

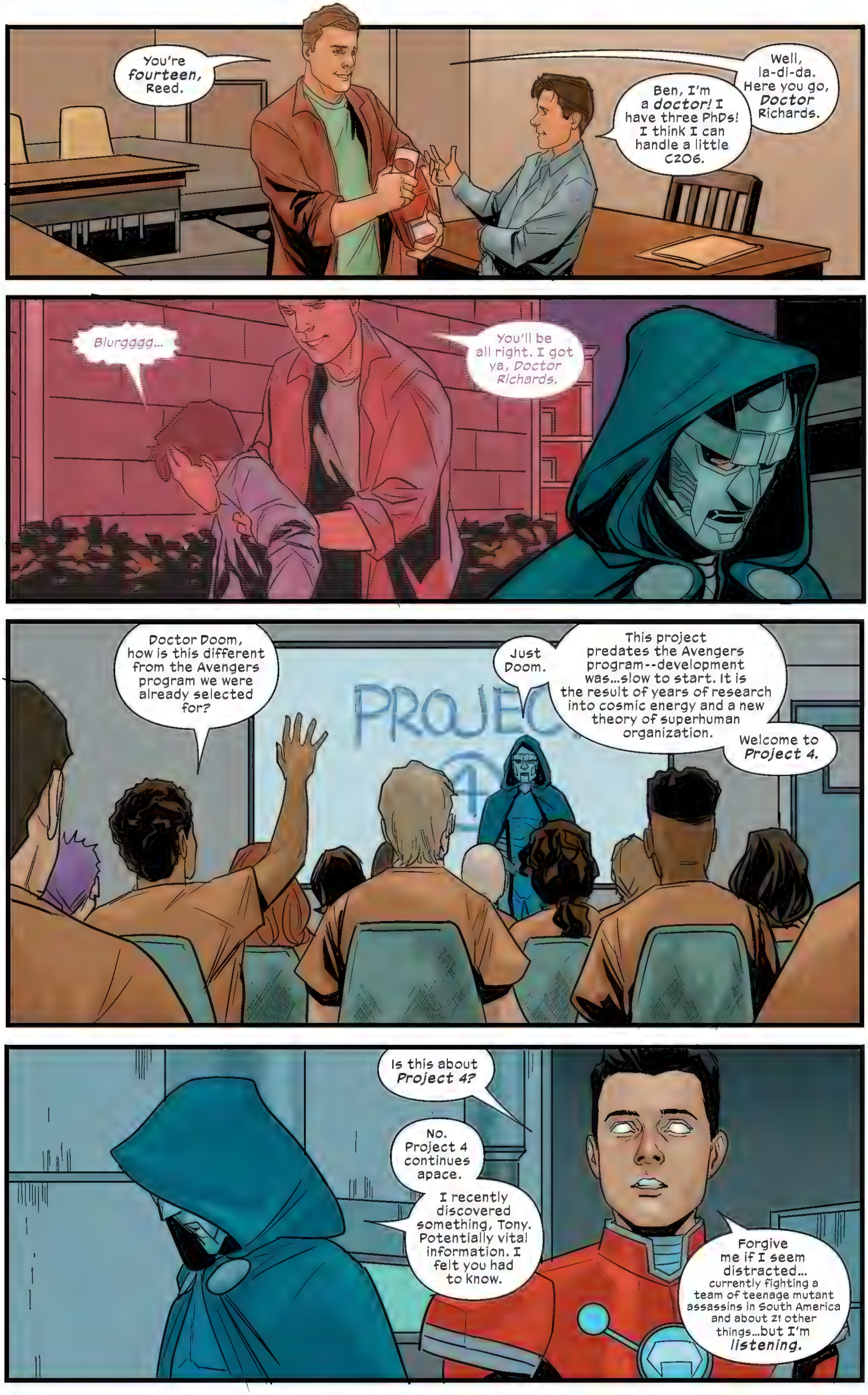


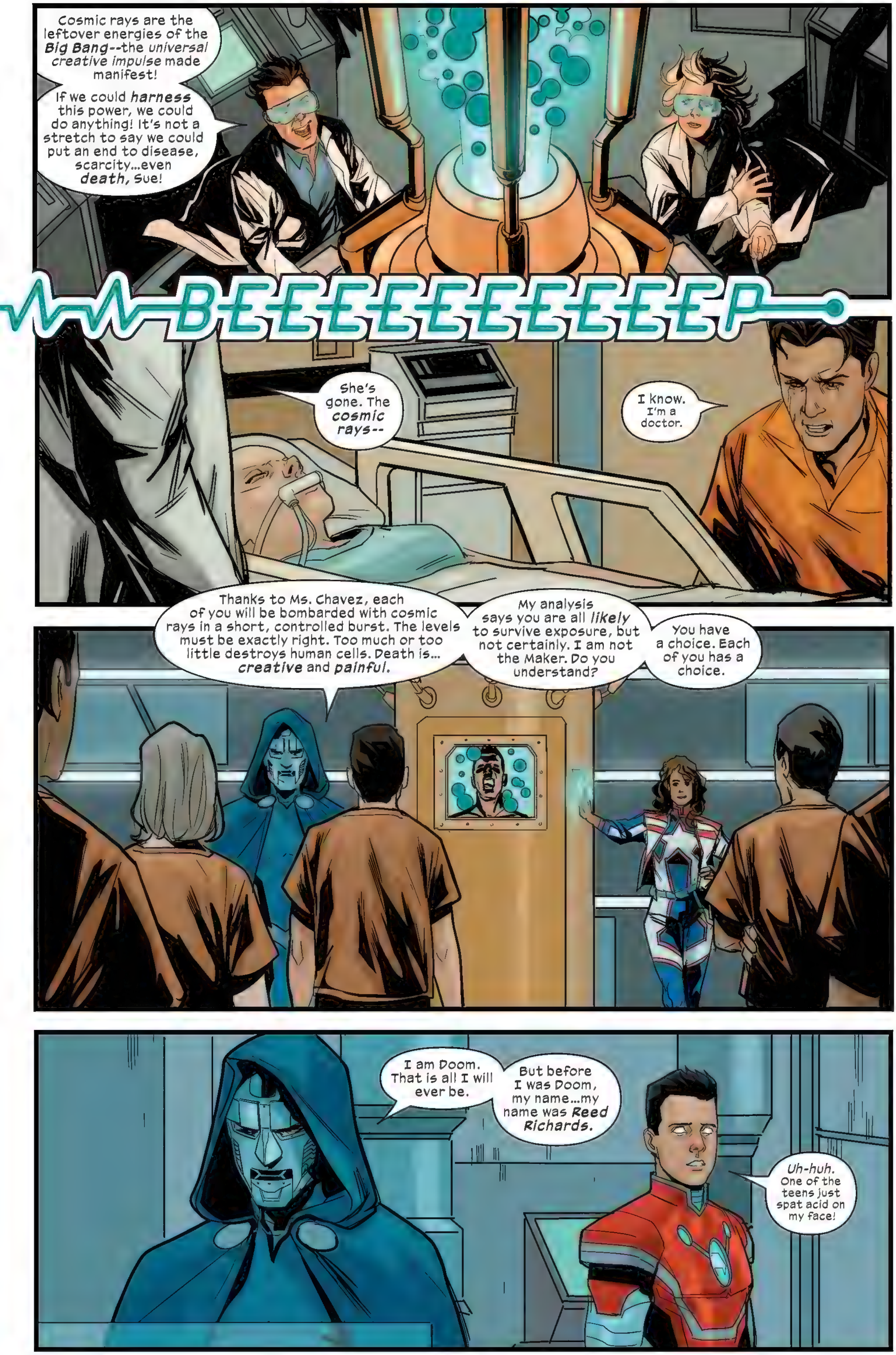
AMERICA CHAVEZ
COSMIC POWERHOUSE

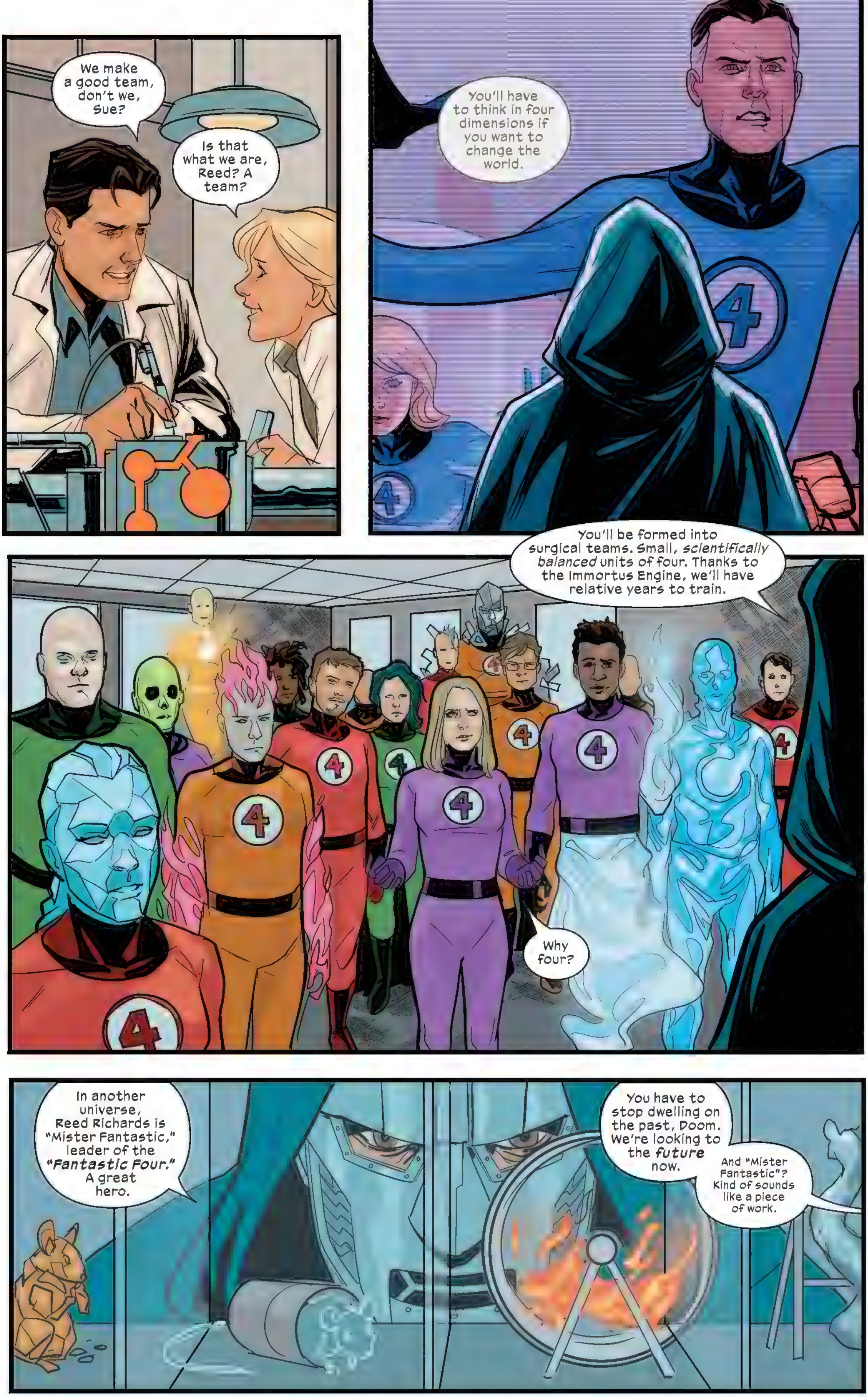
THE HUMAN TORCH
JIM HAMMOND

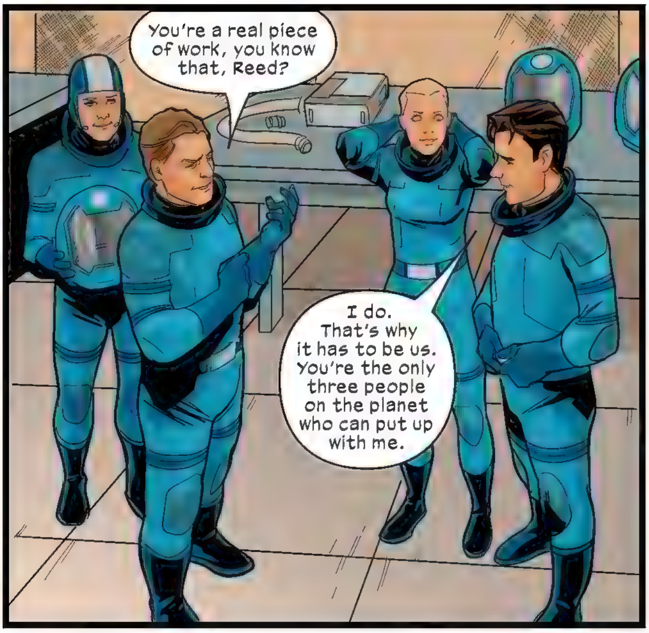
OCTOBER 2025

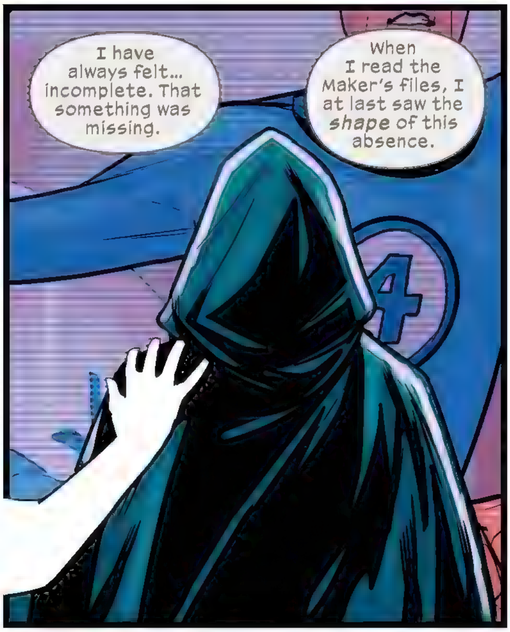

What is the fourth dimension? Can anyone tell me? Reed?
DOOOOOM
--a prison. Time closes in on us like the walls of a cell. If you are to make it past those walls--*escape this prison you were born into*--you'll have to think in *four dimensions.*
I am *Doom.* I will be your teacher.
Do you have time to speak, Tony?
Sure, Doom. For you, I'll ***make*** time.

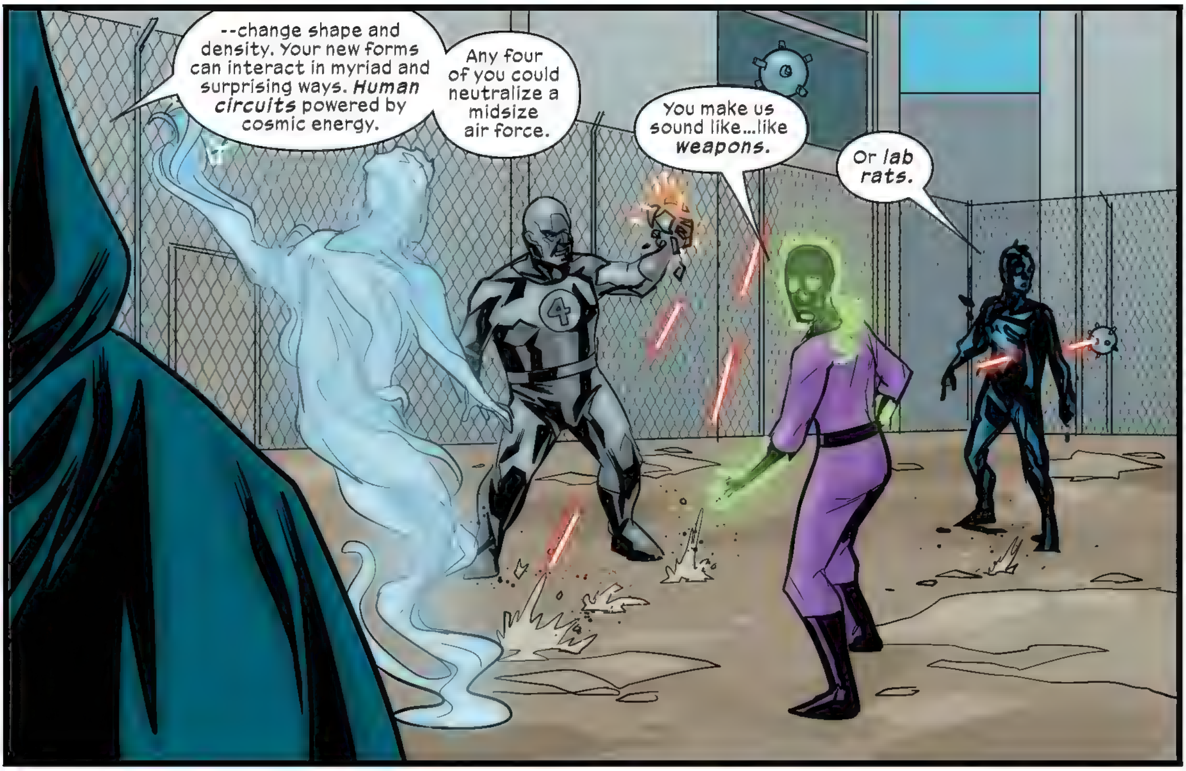

You're *fourteen,* Reed.
Well, la-di-da. Here you go, *Doctor* Richards.
Ben, I'm a *doctor!* I have three PhDs! I think I can handle a little C2O6.
Blurgggg...
You'll be all right. I got ya, Doctor Richards.
Doctor Doom, how is this different from the Avengers program we were already selected for?
Just Doom.
PROJECT
4
This project predates the Avengers program--development was...slow to start. It is the result of years of research into cosmic energy and a new theory of superhuman organization.
Welcome to *Project 4.*
Is this about *Project 4?*
No. Project 4 continues apace.
I recently discovered something, Tony. Potentially vital information. I felt you had to know.
Forgive me if I seem distracted... currently fighting a team of teenage mutant assassins in South America and about 21 other things...but I'm *listening.*

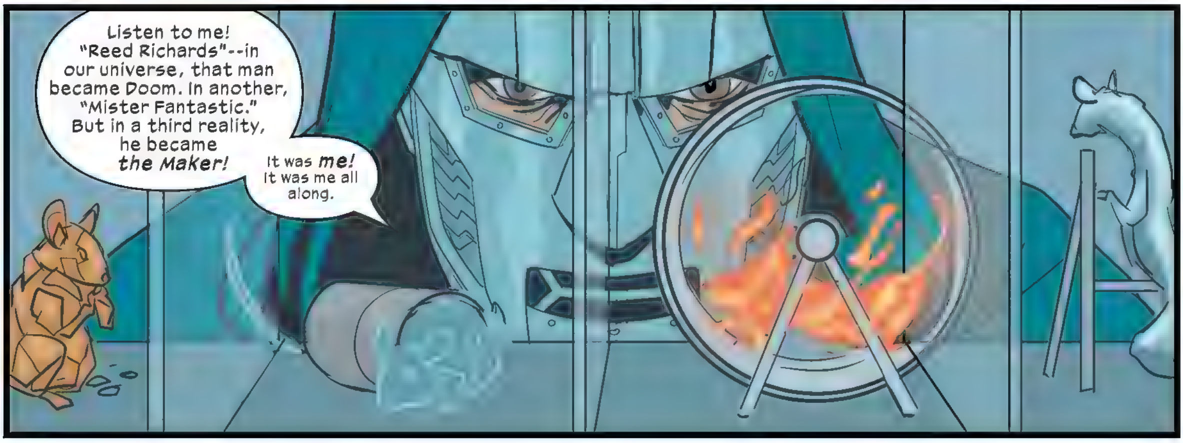

Cosmic rays are the leftover energies of the *Big Bang*--the *universal creative impulse* made manifest!
If we could ***harness*** this power, we could do anything! It's not a stretch to say we could put an end to disease, scarcity...even ***death,*** Sue!
BEEEEEEEEEEP
She's gone. The ***cosmic rays--***
I know. I'm a doctor.
Thanks to Ms. Chavez, each of you will be bombarded with cosmic rays in a short, controlled burst. The levels must be exactly right. Too much or too little destroys human cells. Death is... ***creative*** and ***painful.***
My analysis says you are all ***likely*** to survive exposure, but not certainly. I am not the Maker. Do you understand?
You have a choice. Each of you has a choice.
I am Doom. That is all I will ever be.
But before I was Doom, my name...my name was ***Reed Richards.***
Uh-huh. One of the teens just spat acid on my face!

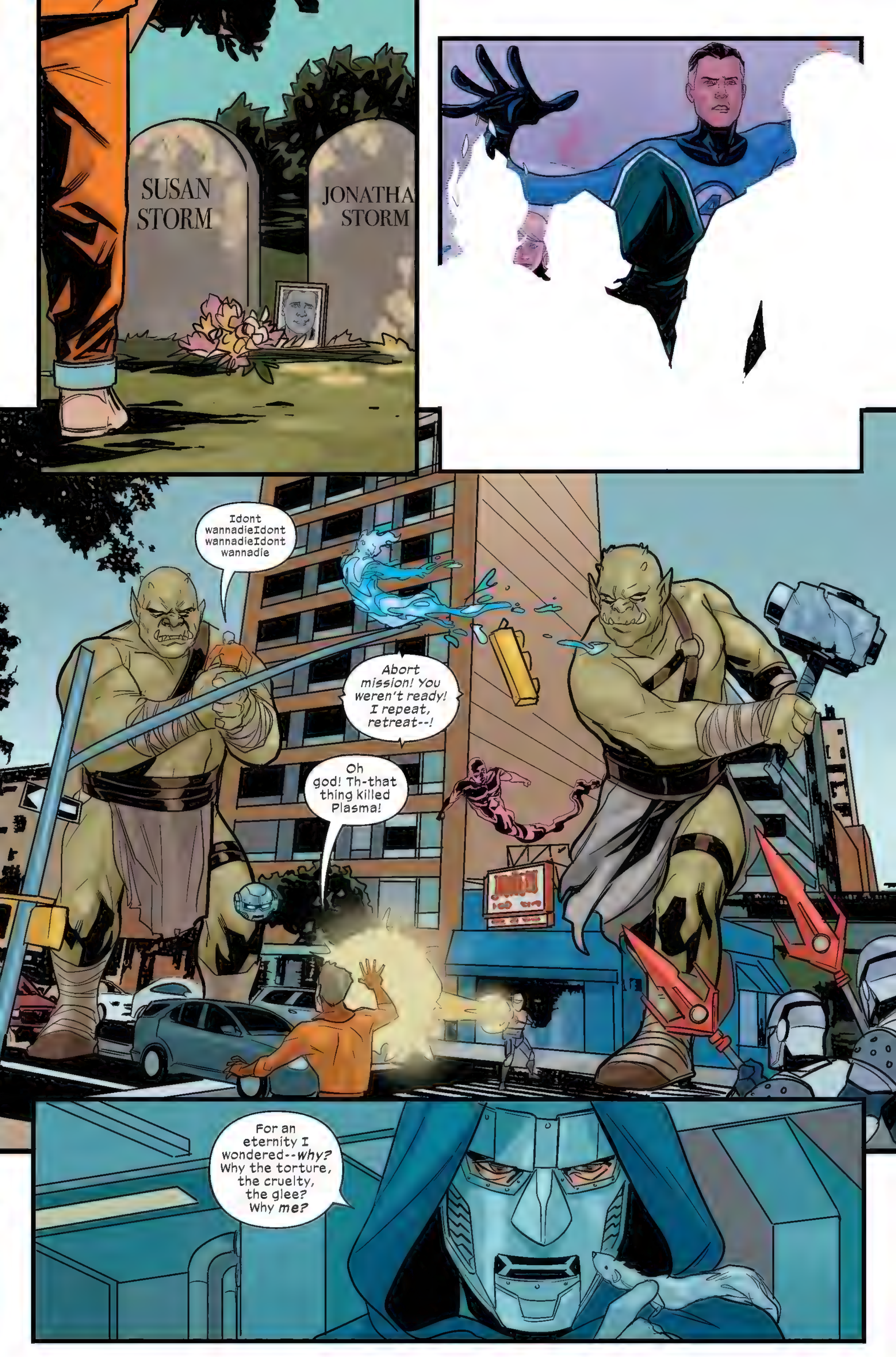

We make a good team, don't we, Sue?
Is that what we are, Reed? A team?
You'll have to think in four dimensions if you want to change the world.
You'll be formed into surgical teams. Small, *scientifically balanced* units of four. Thanks to the Immortus Engine, we'll have relative years to train.
Why four?
In another universe, Reed Richards is "Mister Fantastic," leader of the "*Fantastic Four.*" A great hero.
You have to stop dwelling on the past, Doom. We're looking to the *future* now.
And "Mister Fantastic"? Kind of sounds like a piece of work.

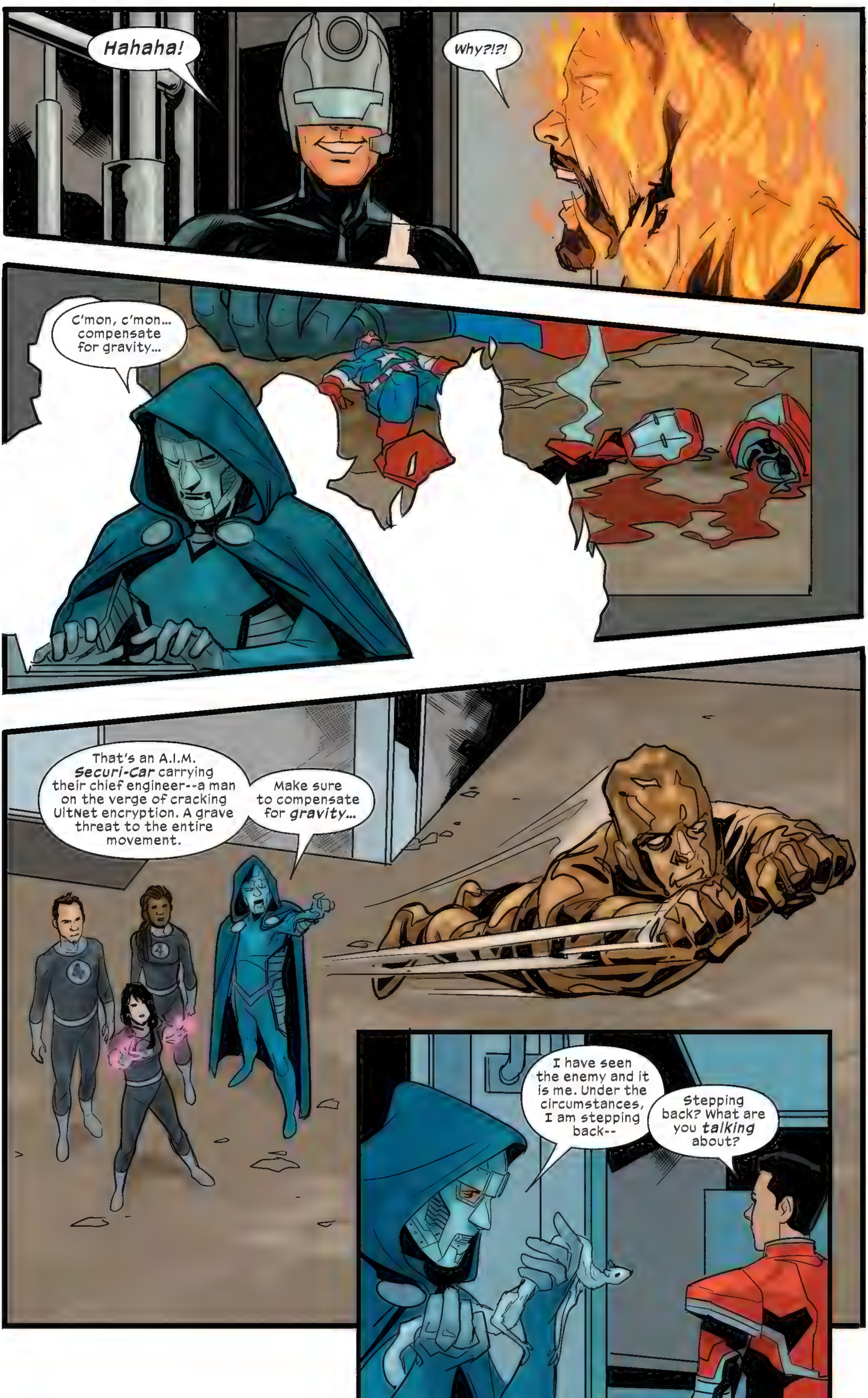

You're a real piece of work, you know that, Reed?
I do. That's why it has to be us. You're the only three people on the planet who can put up with me.

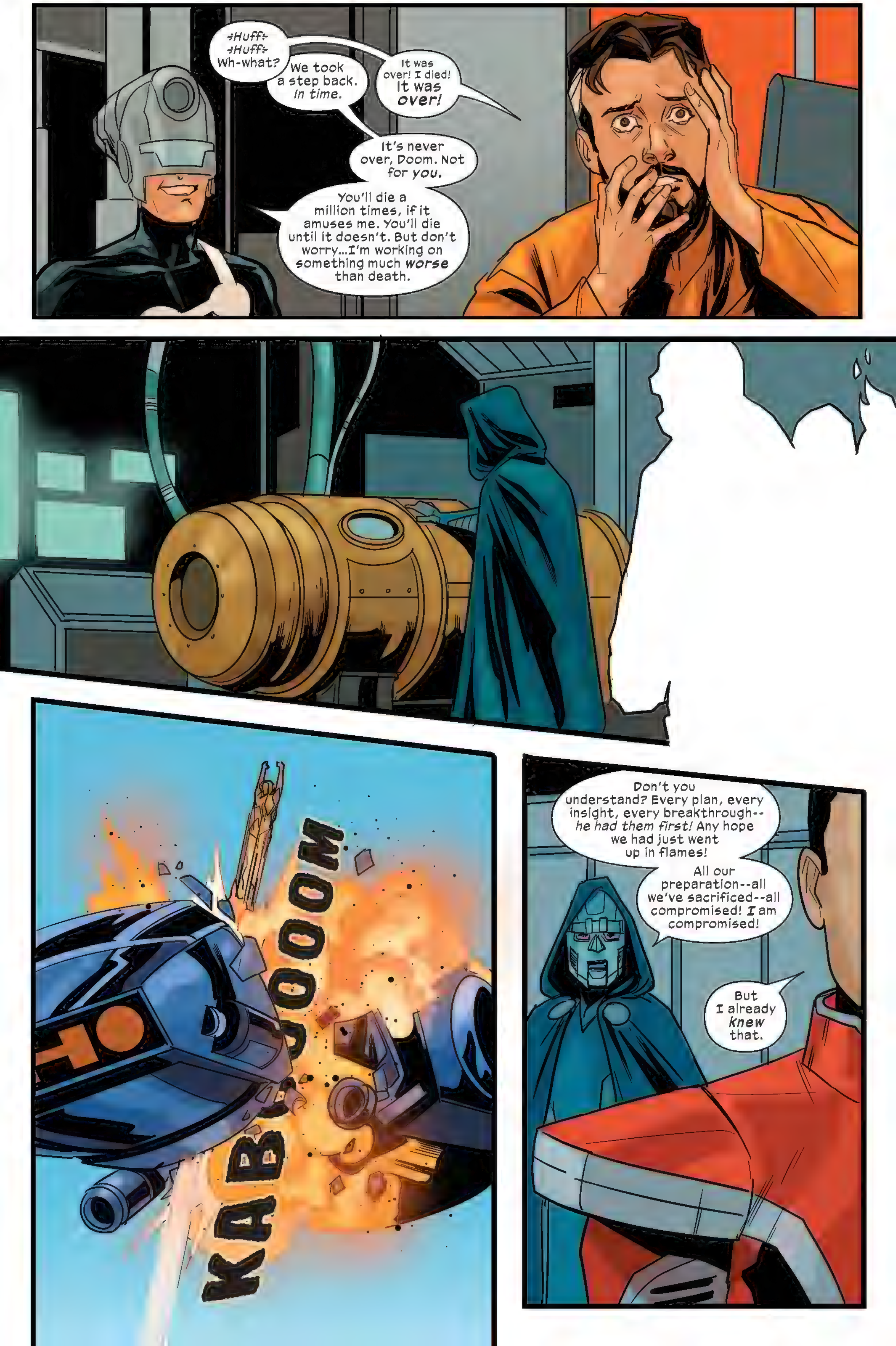

I have always felt... incomplete. That something was missing.
When I read the Maker's files, I at last saw the *shape* of this absence.


--change shape and density. Your new forms can interact in myriad and surprising ways. *Human circuits* powered by cosmic energy.
Any four of you could neutralize a midsize air force.
You make us sound like...like *weapons.*
Or *lab rats.*

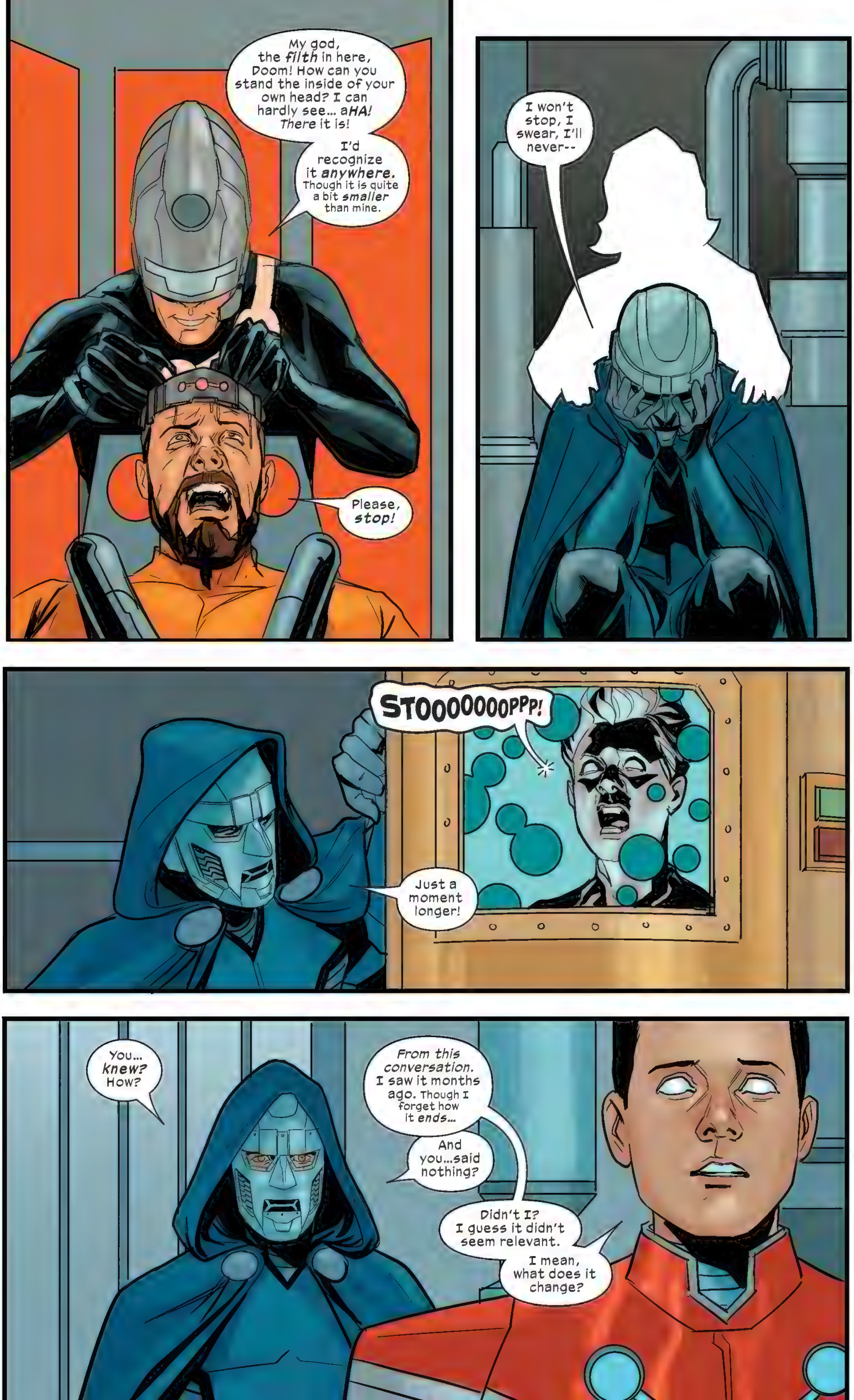

Listen to me! "Reed Richards"--in our universe, that man became Doom. In another, "Mister Fantastic." But in a third reality, he became *the Maker!*
It was *me!* It was me all along.

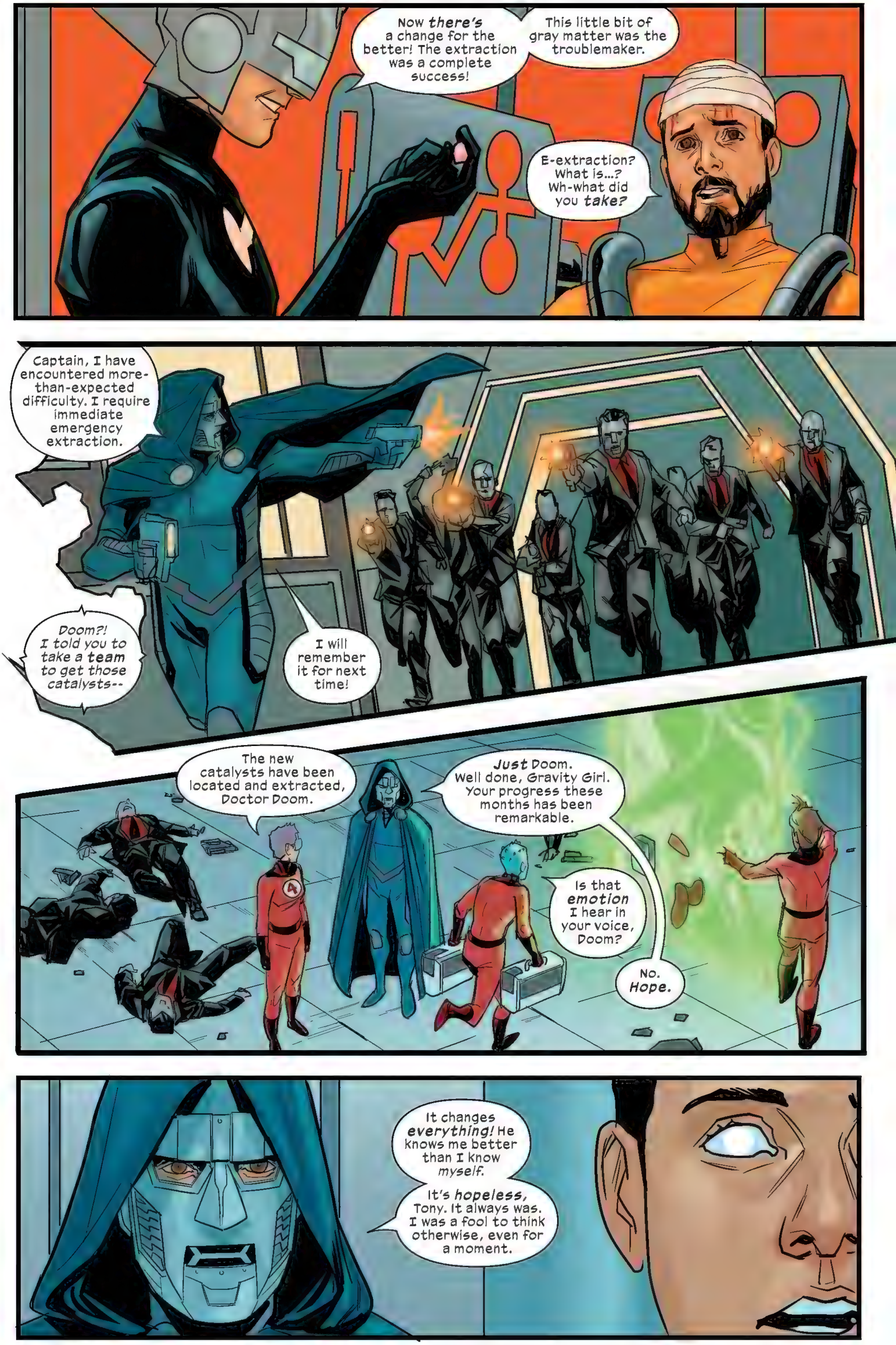

SUSAN
STORM
JONATHA
STORM
Idont wannadieIdont wannadieIdont wannadie
Abort mission! You weren't ready! I repeat, retreat--!
Oh god! Th-that thing killed Plasma!
For an eternity I wondered--*why?* Why the torture, the cruelty, the glee? Why *me?*

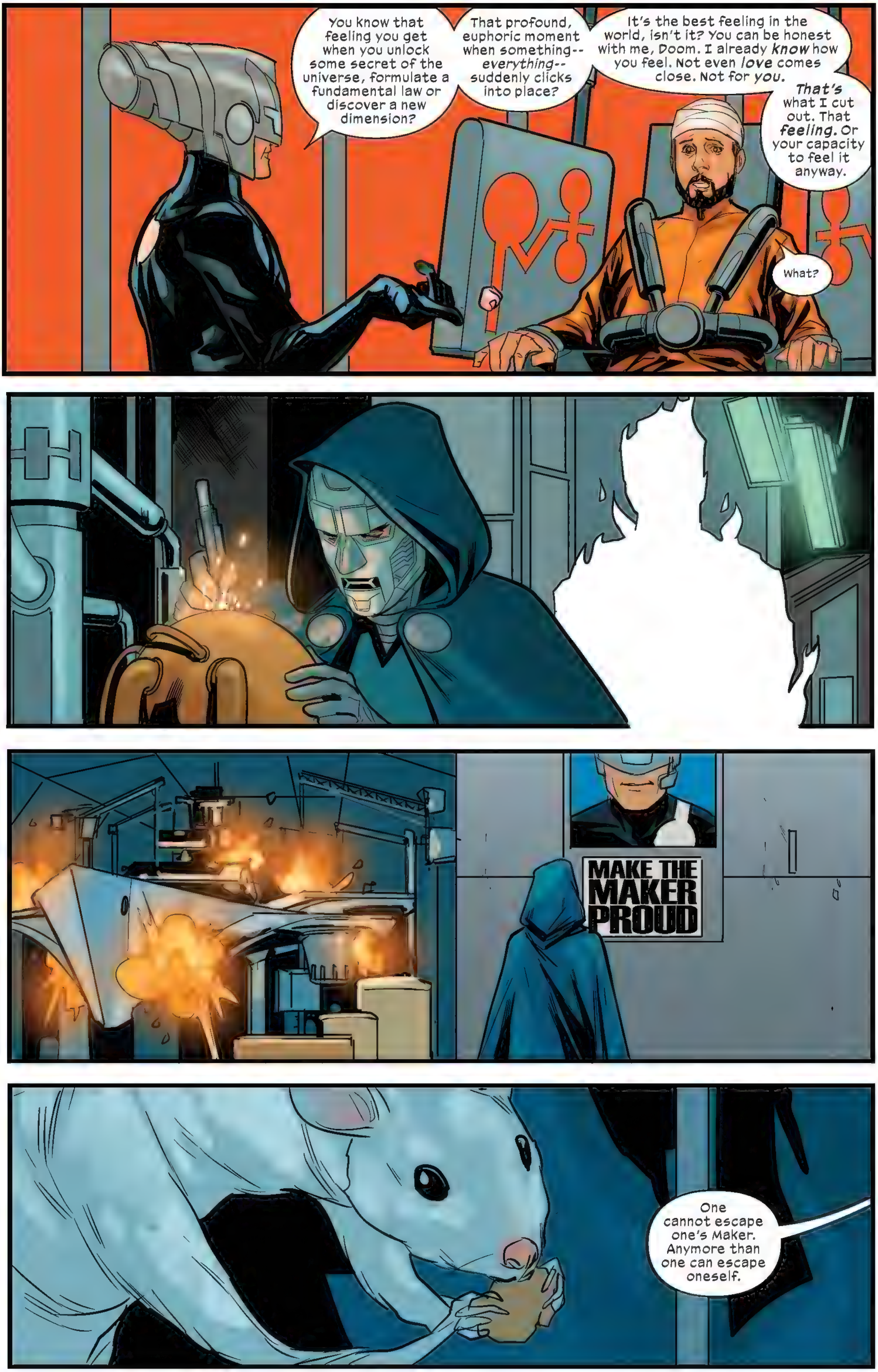

Hahaha!
Why?!?!
C'mon, c'mon... compensate for gravity...
That's an A.I.M. *Securi-Car* carrying their chief engineer--a man on the verge of cracking UltNet encryption. A grave threat to the entire movement.
Make sure to compensate for *gravity*...
I have seen the enemy and it is me. Under the circumstances, I am stepping back--
Stepping back? What are you *talking* about?

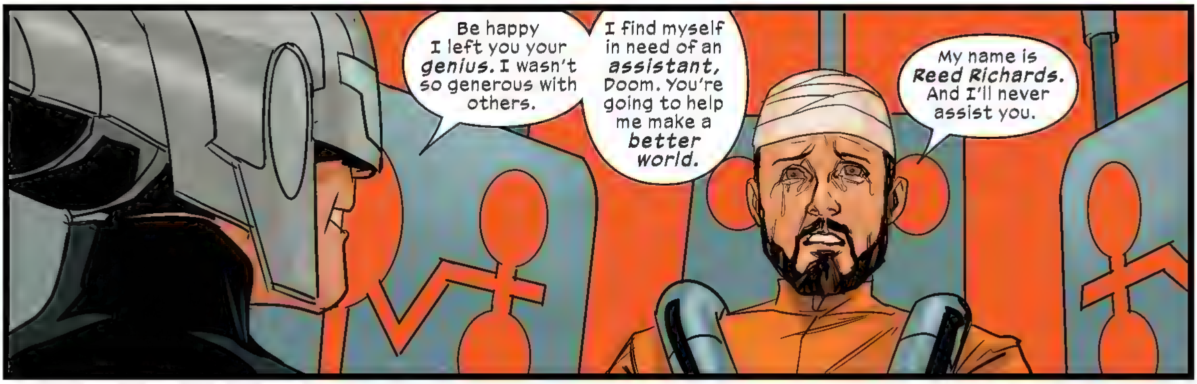


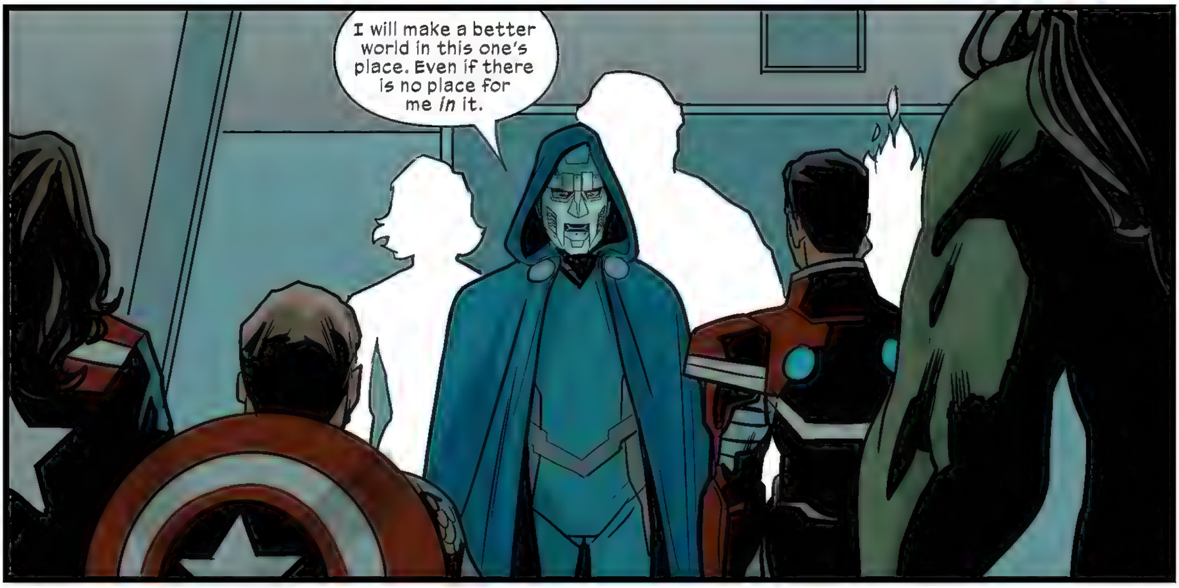
Huff
Huff
Wh-what?
We took a step back. *In time.*
It was over! I died! It was *over!*
It's never over, Doom. Not for *you.*
You'll die a million times, if it amuses me. You'll die until it doesn't. But don't worry...I'm working on something much *worse* than death.
KABOOOOM
Don't you understand? Every plan, every insight, every breakthrough-- *he had them first!* Any hope we had just went up in flames!
All our preparation--all we've sacrificed--all compromised! *I* am compromised!
But I already *knew* that.

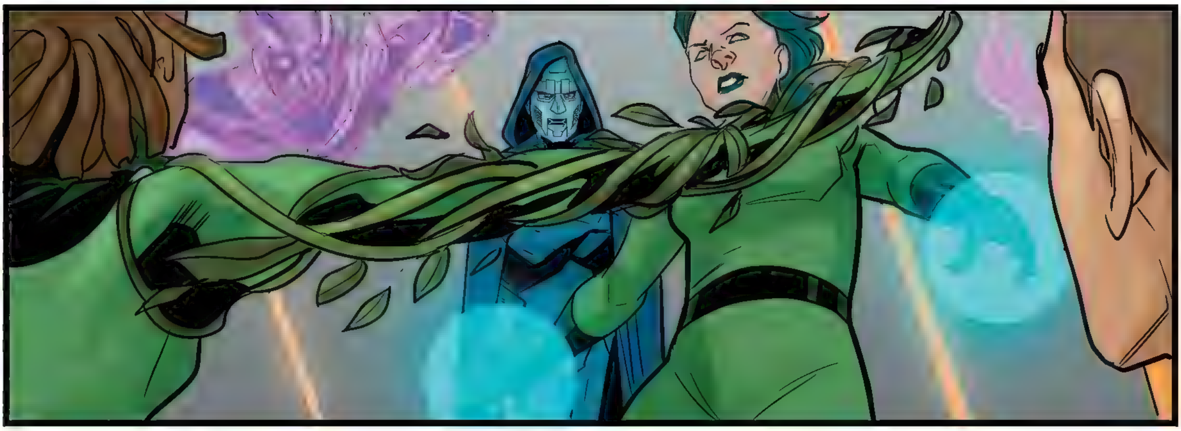

My god, the *filth* in here, Doom! How can you stand the inside of your own head? I can hardly see... a*HA! There* it is!
I'd recognize it *anywhere.* Though it is quite a bit *smaller* than mine.
Please, *stop!*
I won't stop, I swear, I'll never--
STOOOOOOOPPP!
Just a moment longer!
You... *knew?* How?
From this conversation. I saw it months ago. Though I forget how it *ends...*
And you...said nothing?
Didn't I? I guess it didn't seem relevant.
I mean, what does it change?

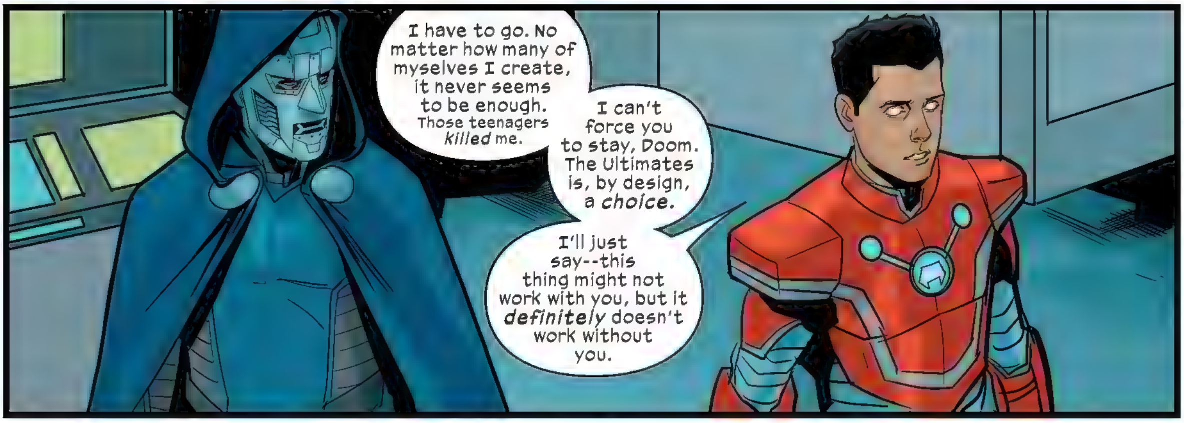

Now *there's* a change for the better! The extraction was a complete success!
This little bit of gray matter was the troublemaker.
E-extraction? What is...? Wh-what did you *take?*
Captain, I have encountered more-than-expected difficulty. I require immediate emergency extraction.
Doom?! I told you to take a **team** *to get those catalysts--*
I will remember it for next time!
The new catalysts have been located and extracted, Doctor Doom.
Just Doom. Well done, Gravity Girl. Your progress these months has been remarkable.
Is that ***emotion*** I hear in your voice, Doom?
No. ***Hope.***
It changes ***everything!*** He knows me better than I know *myself.*
It's ***hopeless,*** Tony. It always was. I was a fool to think otherwise, even for a moment.

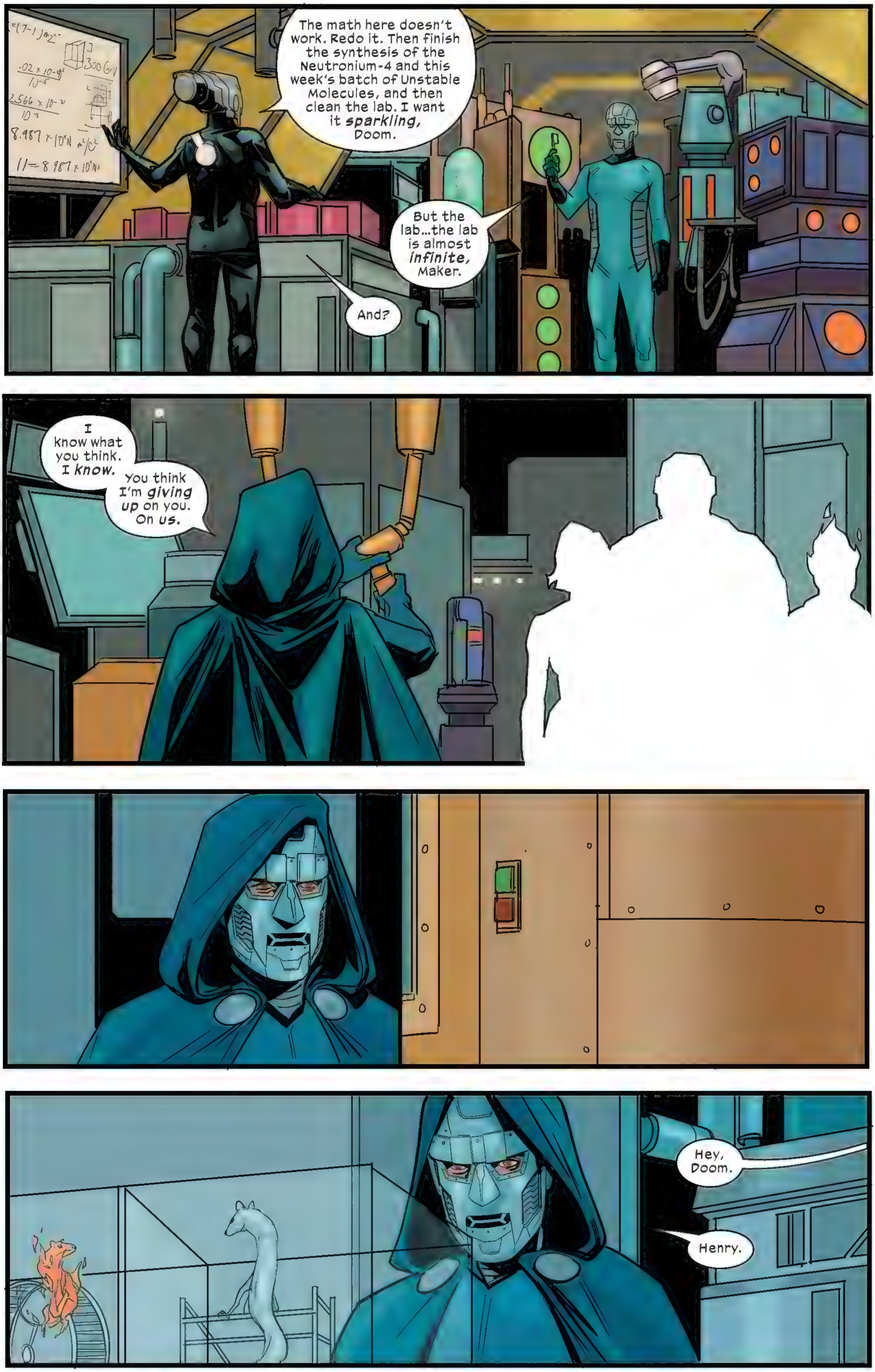

You know that feeling you get when you unlock some secret of the universe, formulate a fundamental law or discover a new dimension?
That profound, euphoric moment when something-- *everything*-- suddenly clicks into place?
It's the best feeling in the world, isn't it? You can be honest with me, Doom. I already *know* how you feel. Not even *love* comes close. Not for *you.*
That's what I cut out. That *feeling.* Or your capacity to feel it anyway.
What?
MAKE THE MAKER PROUD
One cannot escape one's Maker. Anymore than one can escape oneself.

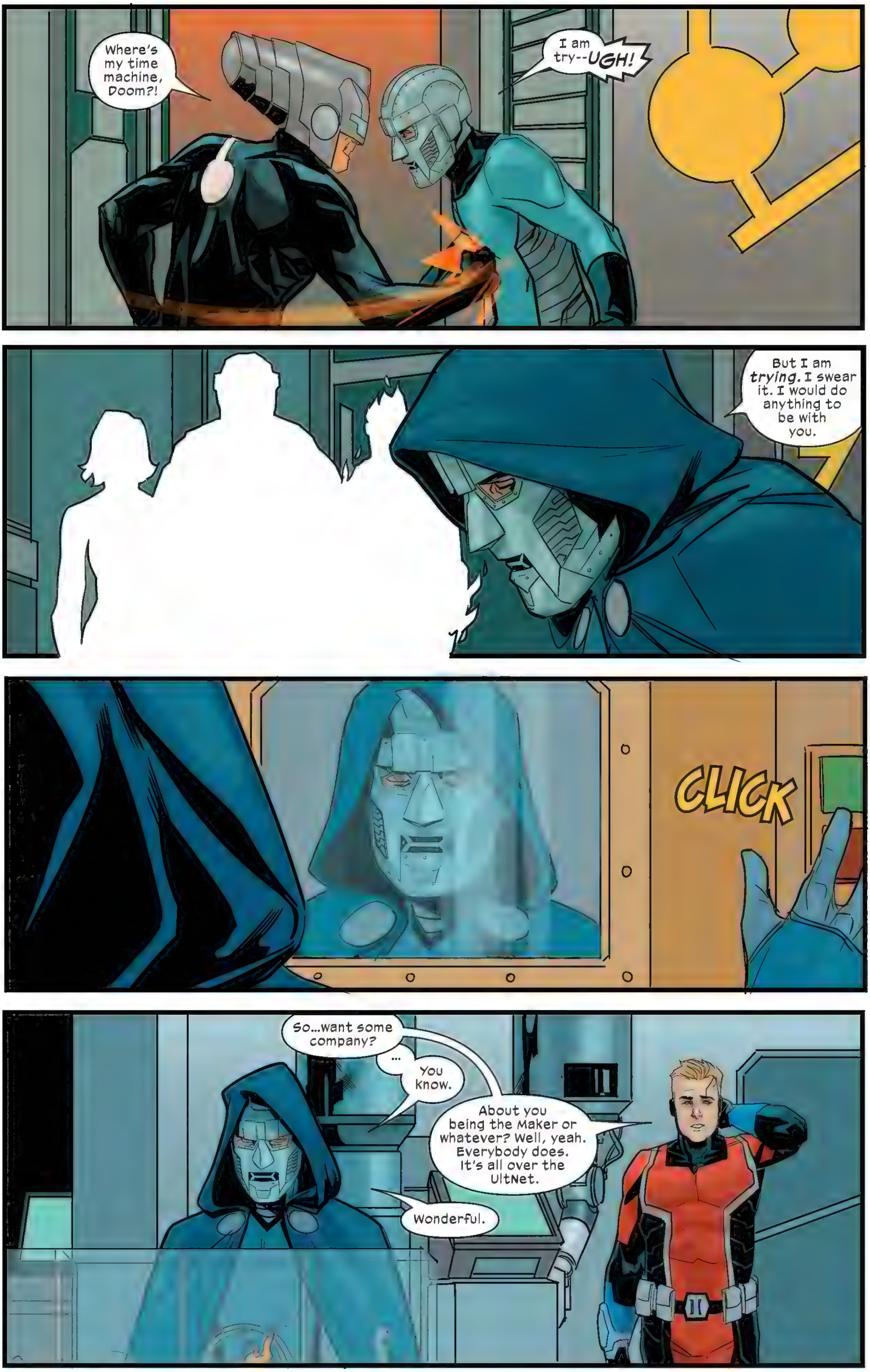

Be happy I left you your *genius.* I wasn't so generous with others.
I find myself in need of an *assistant,* Doom. You're going to help me make a ***better world.***
My name is ***Reed Richards.*** And I'll never assist you.

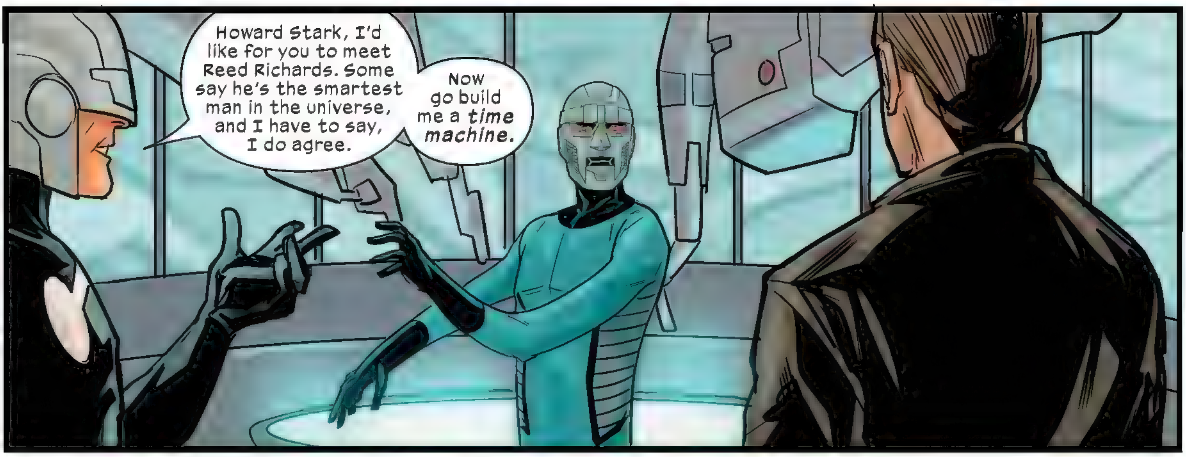

I will make a better world in this one's place. Even if there is no place for me *in* it.

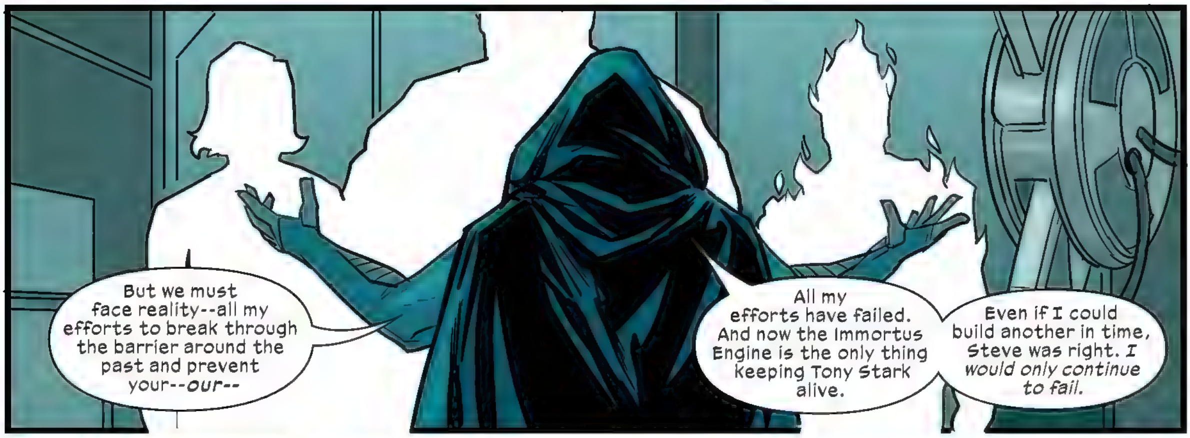


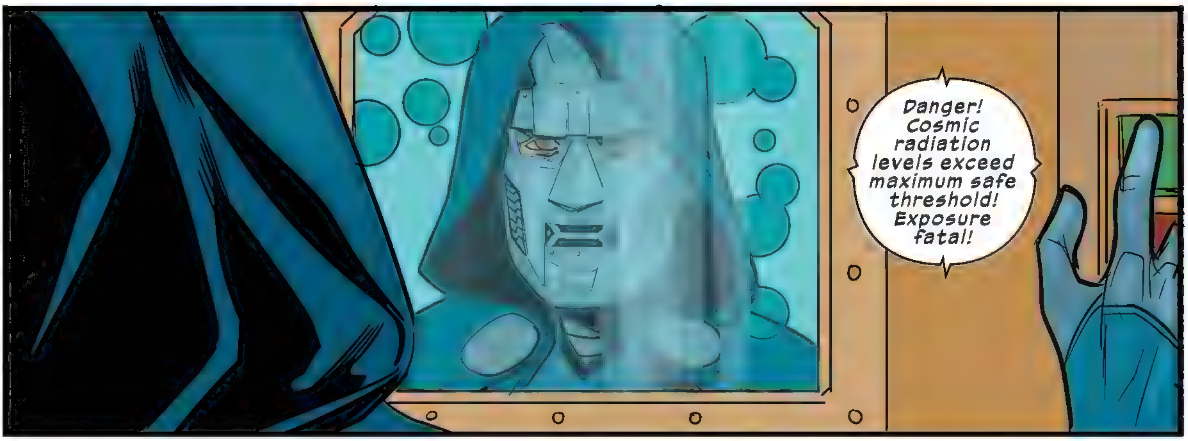

I have to go. No matter how many of myselves I create, it never seems to be enough. Those teenagers *killed* me.
I can't force you to stay, Doom. The Ultimates is, by design, a *choice.*
I'll just say--this thing might not work with you, but it *definitely* doesn't work without you.

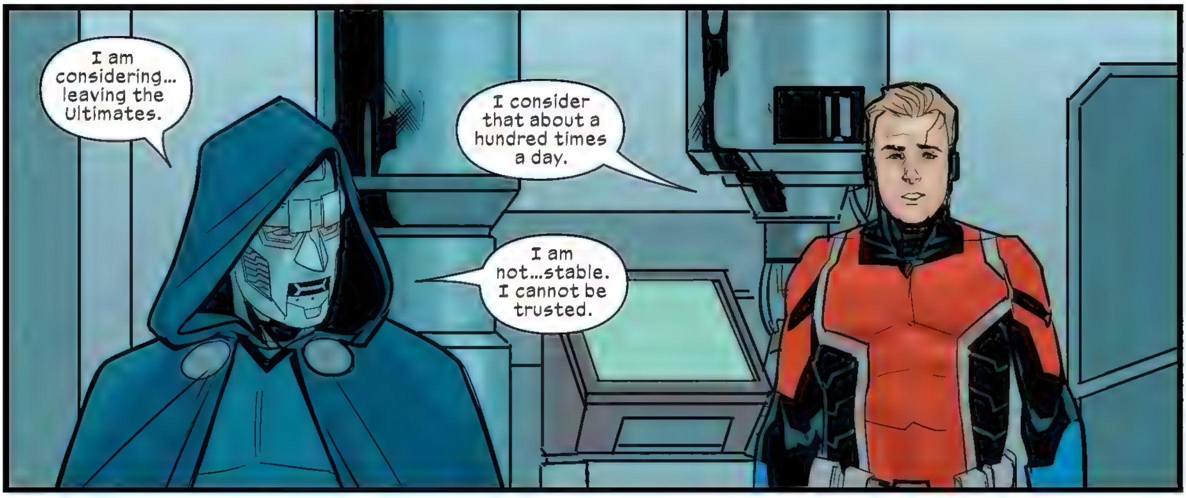

The math here doesn't work. Redo it. Then finish the synthesis of the Neutronium-4 and this week's batch of Unstable Molecules, and then clean the lab. I want it *sparkling,* Doom.
But the lab...the lab is almost *infinite,* Maker.
And?
I know what you think. I *know.*
You think I'm *giving up* on you. On *us.*
Hey, Doom.
Henry.

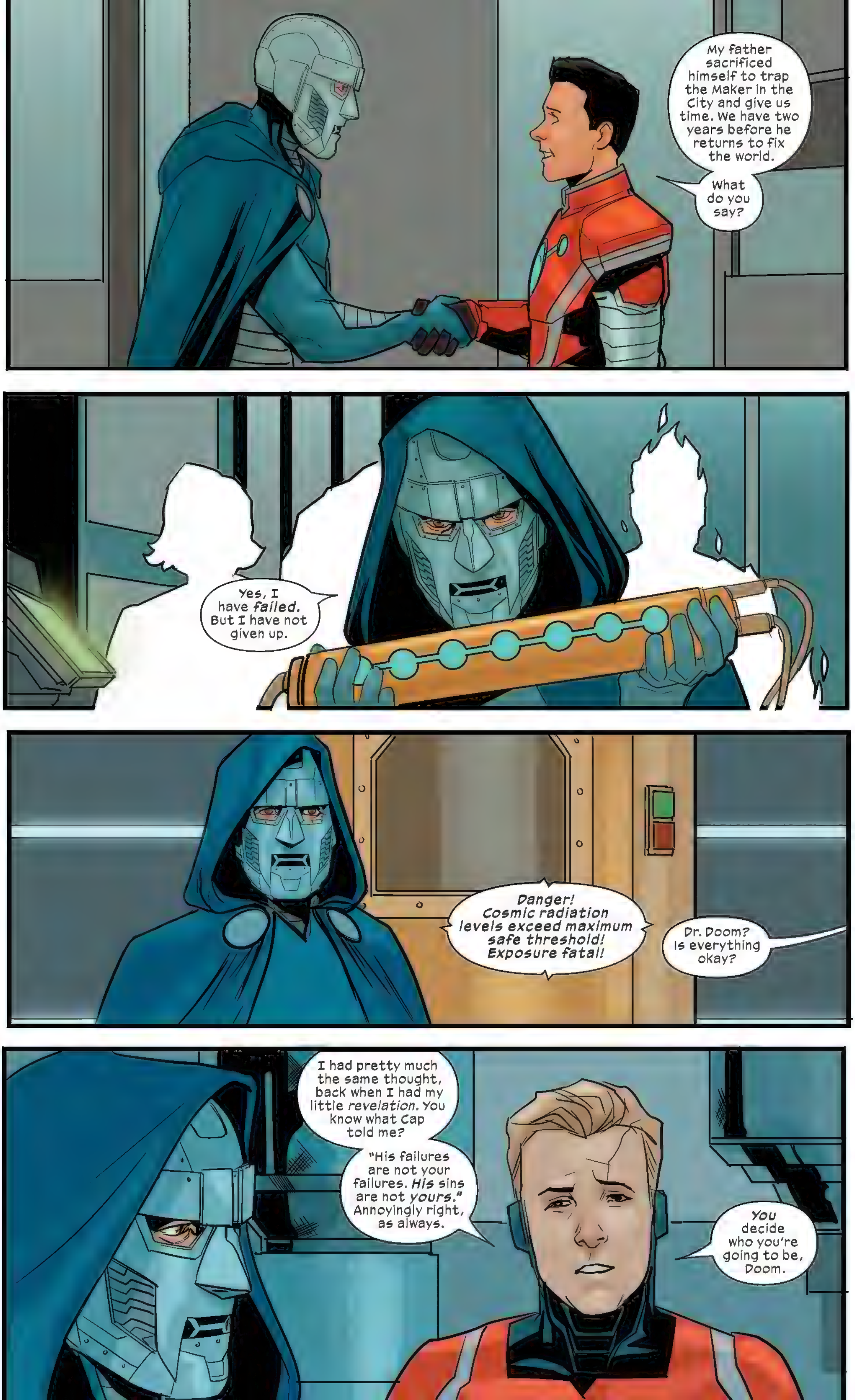

Where's my time machine, Doom?!
I am try--UGH!
But I am *trying*. I swear it. I would do anything to be with you.
CLICK
So...want some company?
... You know.
About you being the Maker or whatever? Well, yeah. Everybody does. It's all over the UltNet.
Wonderful.

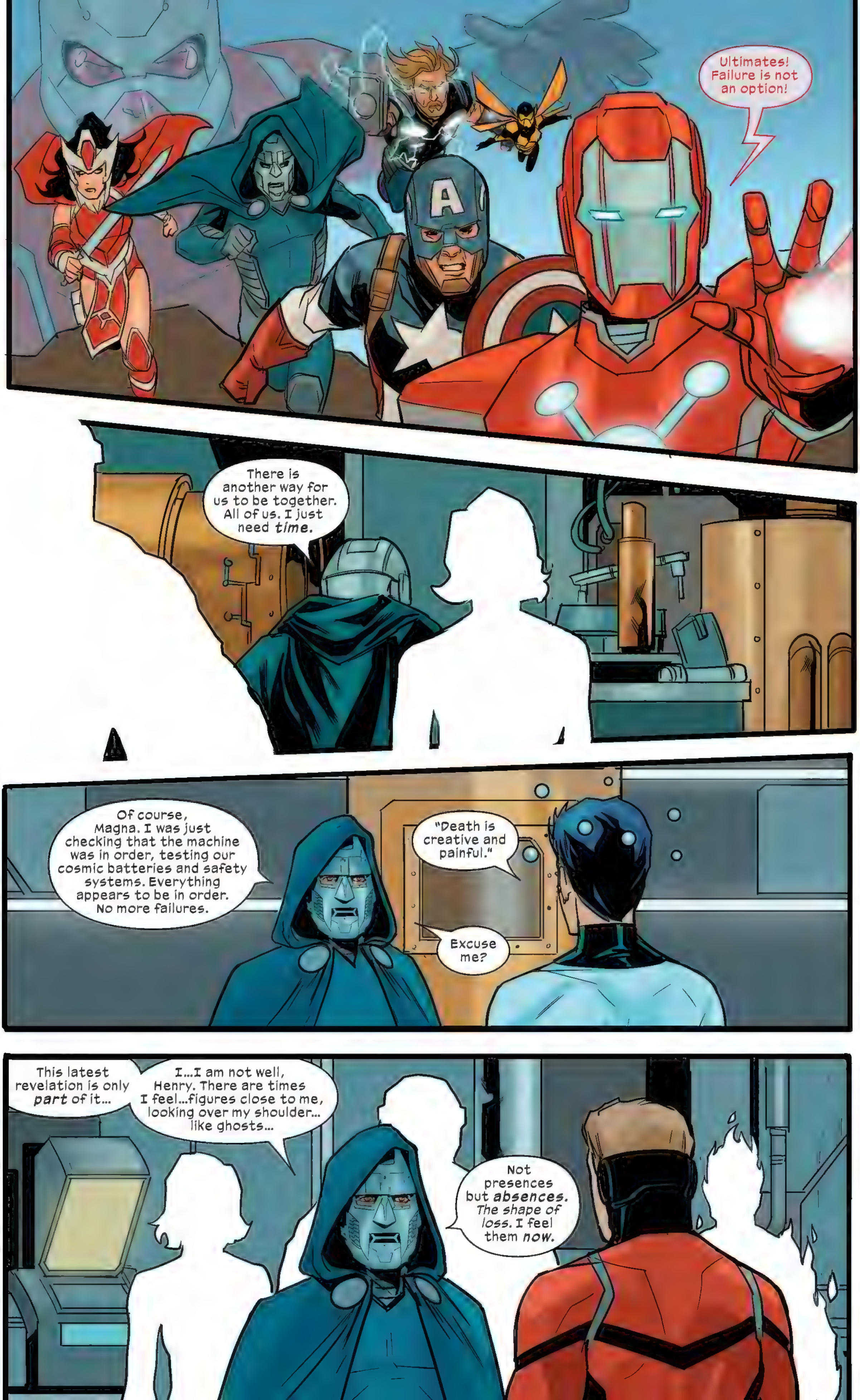

Howard Stark, I'd like for you to meet Reed Richards. Some say he's the smartest man in the universe, and I have to say, I do agree.
Now go build me a *time machine.*

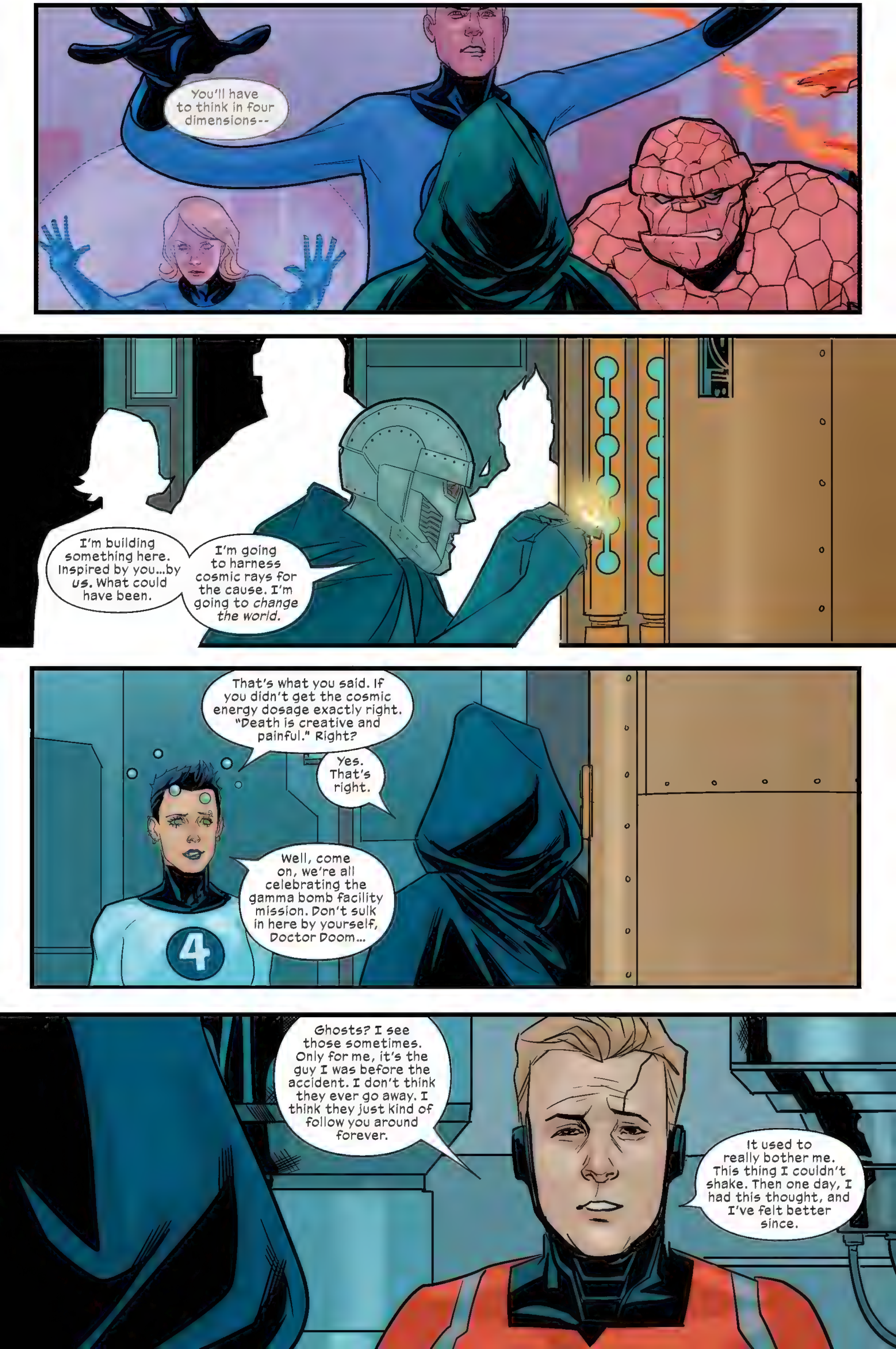

But we must face reality--all my efforts to break through the barrier around the past and prevent your--*our*--
All my efforts have failed. And now the Immortus Engine is the only thing keeping Tony Stark alive.
Even if I could build another in time, Steve was right. *I would only continue to fail.*

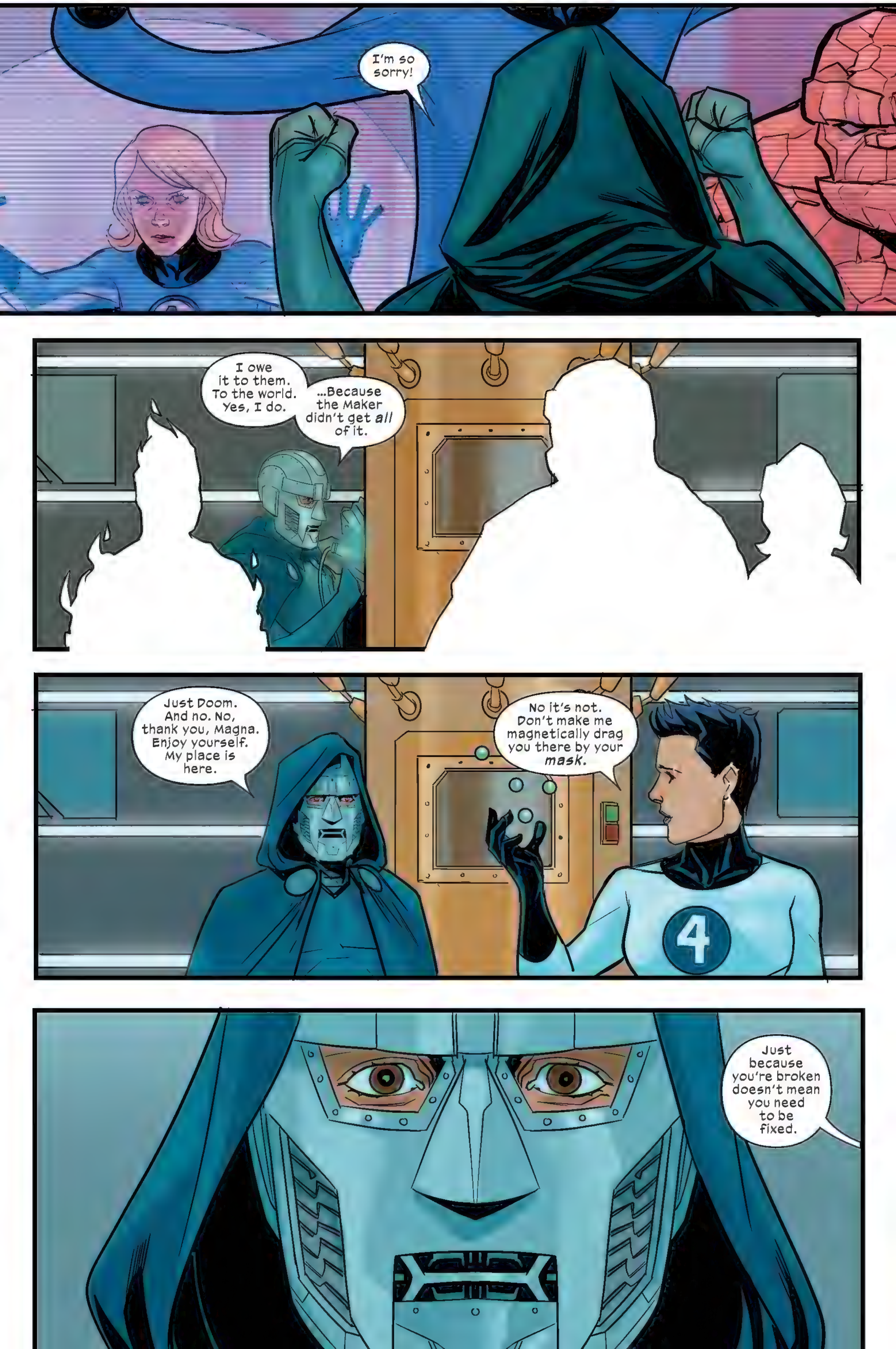

Danger! Cosmic radiation levels exceed maximum safe threshold! Exposure fatal!

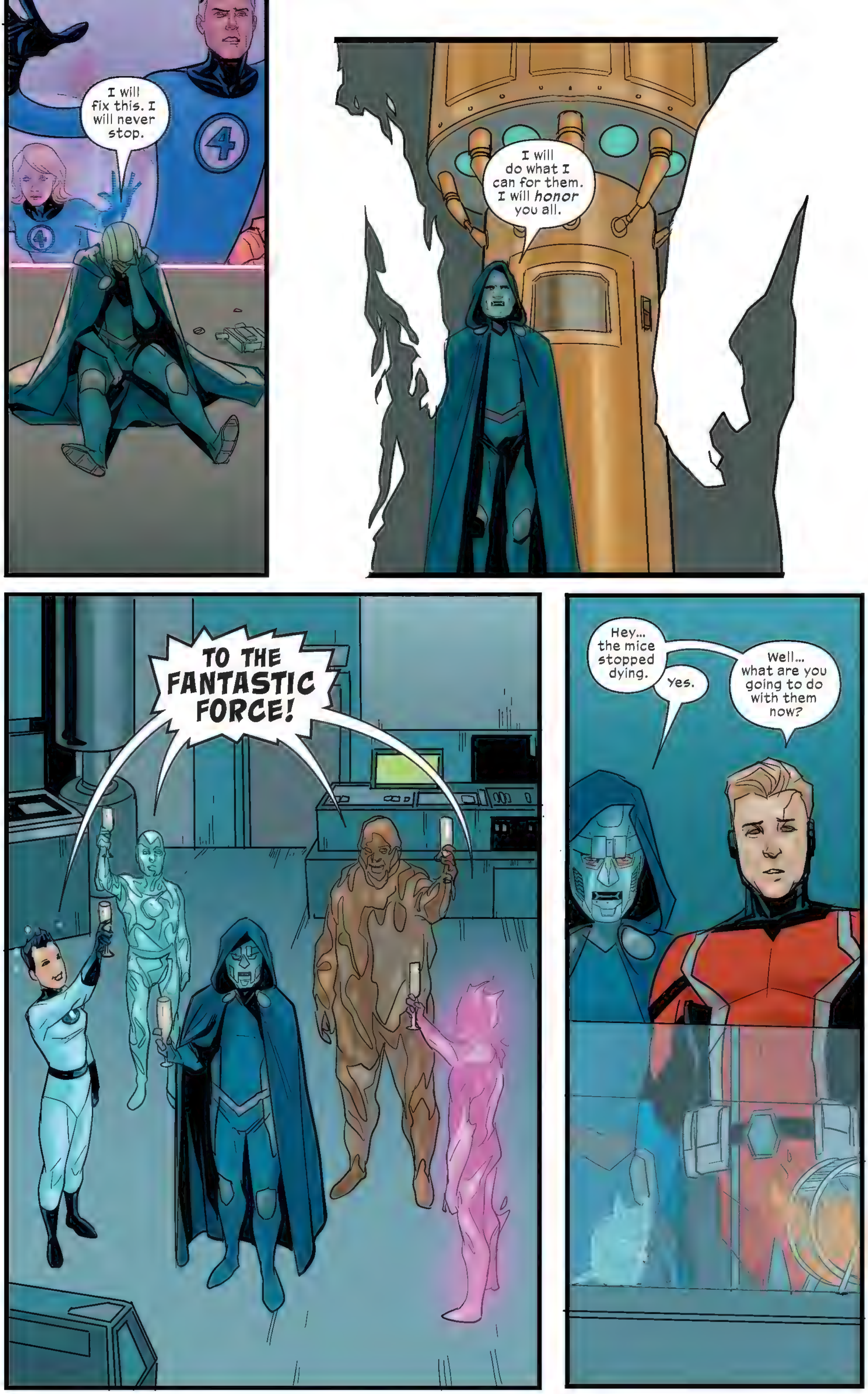

I am considering... leaving the Ultimates.
I consider that about a hundred times a day.
I am not...stable. I cannot be trusted.

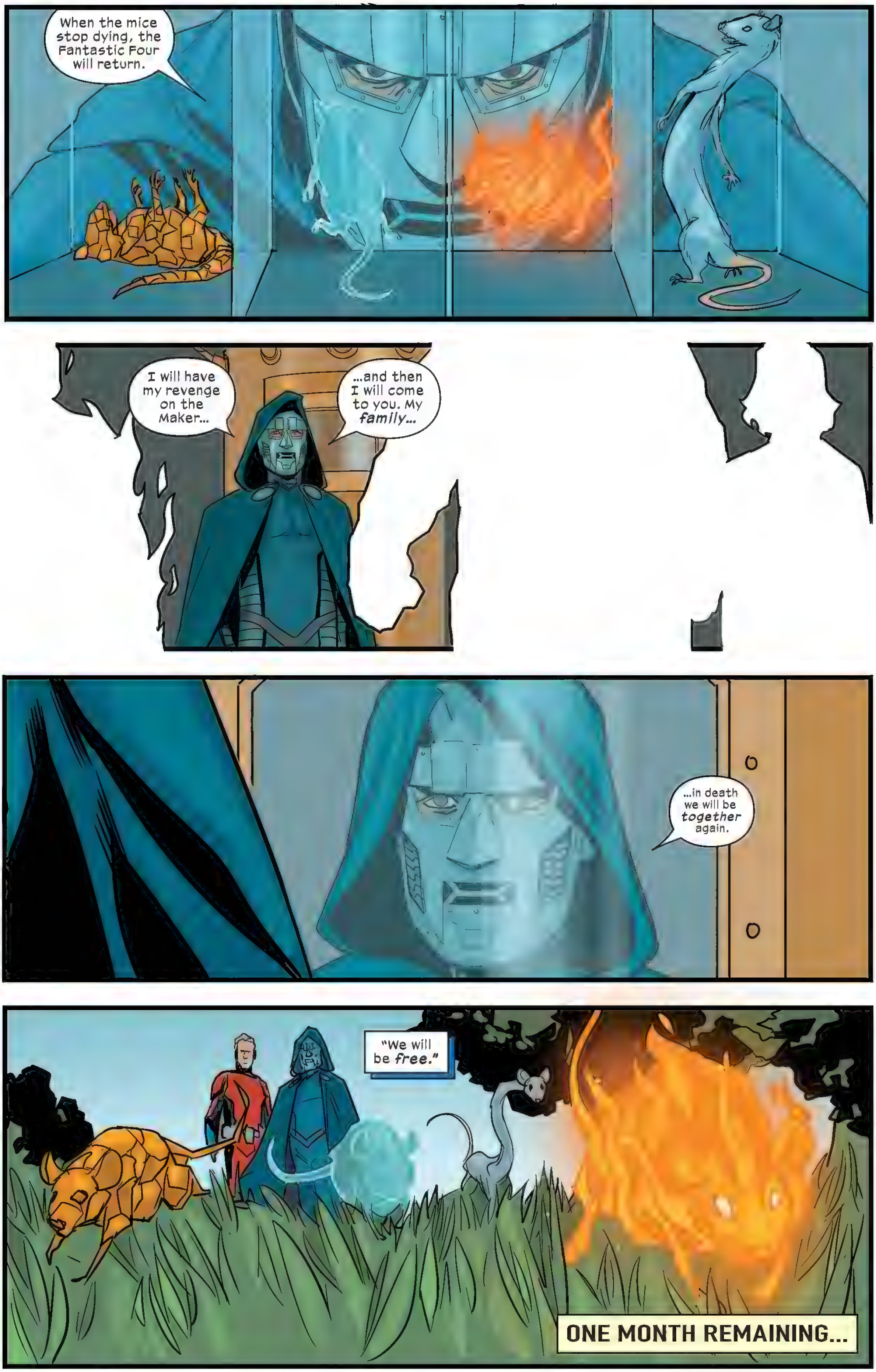

My father sacrificed himself to trap the Maker in the City and give us time. We have two years before he returns to fix the world.
What do you say?
Yes, I have *failed*. But I have not given up.
Danger! Cosmic radiation levels exceed maximum safe threshold! Exposure fatal!
Dr. Doom? Is everything okay?
I had pretty much the same thought, back when I had my little *revelation*. You know what Cap told me?
"His failures are not your failures. *His* sins are not *yours*." Annoyingly right, as always.
You decide who you're going to be, Doom.


Ultimates! Failure is not an option!
There is another way for us to be together. All of us. I just need *time.*
Of course, Magna. I was just checking that the machine was in order, testing our cosmic batteries and safety systems. Everything appears to be in order. No more failures.
"Death is creative and painful."
Excuse me?
This latest revelation is only *part* of it...
I...I am not well, Henry. There are times I feel...figures close to me, looking over my shoulder... like ghosts...
Not presences but *absences.* The shape of loss. I feel them *now.*


You'll have to think in four dimensions--
I'm building something here. Inspired by you...by *us*. What could have been.
I'm going to harness cosmic rays for the cause. I'm going to *change the world*.
That's what you said. If you didn't get the cosmic energy dosage exactly right. "Death is creative and painful." Right?
Yes. That's right.
Well, come on, we're all celebrating the gamma bomb facility mission. Don't sulk in here by yourself, Doctor Doom...
Ghosts? I see those sometimes. Only for me, it's the guy I was before the accident. I don't think they ever go away. I think they just kind of follow you around forever.
It used to really bother me. This thing I couldn't shake. Then one day, I had this thought, and I've felt better since.


I'm so sorry!
I owe it to them. To the world. Yes, I do.
...Because the Maker didn't get *all* of it.
Just Doom. And no. No, thank you, Magna. Enjoy yourself. My place is here.
No it's not. Don't make me magnetically drag you there by your *mask*.
Just because you're broken doesn't mean you need to be fixed.


I will fix this. I will never stop.
I will do what I can for them. I will *honor* you all.
TO THE FANTASTIC FORCE!
Hey... the mice stopped dying.
Yes.
Well... what are you going to do with them now?


When the mice stop dying, the Fantastic Four will return.
I will have my revenge on the Maker...
...and then I will come to you. My *family*...
...in death we will be *together* again.
"We will be *free*."
ONE MONTH REMAINING...

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NEXT

MARVEL
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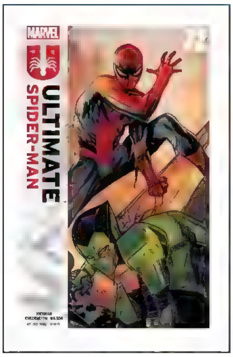
THE ULTIMATES
CAMP FRIGERI BLEE

ON SALE IN **NOVEMBER**

ON SALE THIS MONTH


MARVEL
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ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN

ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN #22

BY **JONATHAN HICKMAN**
& **MARCO CHECCHETTO**

MARVEL
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ULTIMATE BLACK PANTHER

ULTIMATE BLACK PANTHER #21

BY **BRYAN HILL**
& **CARLOS NIETO**

MARVEL
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ULTIMATE X-MEN

ULTIMATE X-MEN #20

BY **PEACH MOMOKO**

MARVEL
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ULTIMATE WOLVERINE

ULTIMATE WOLVERINE #10

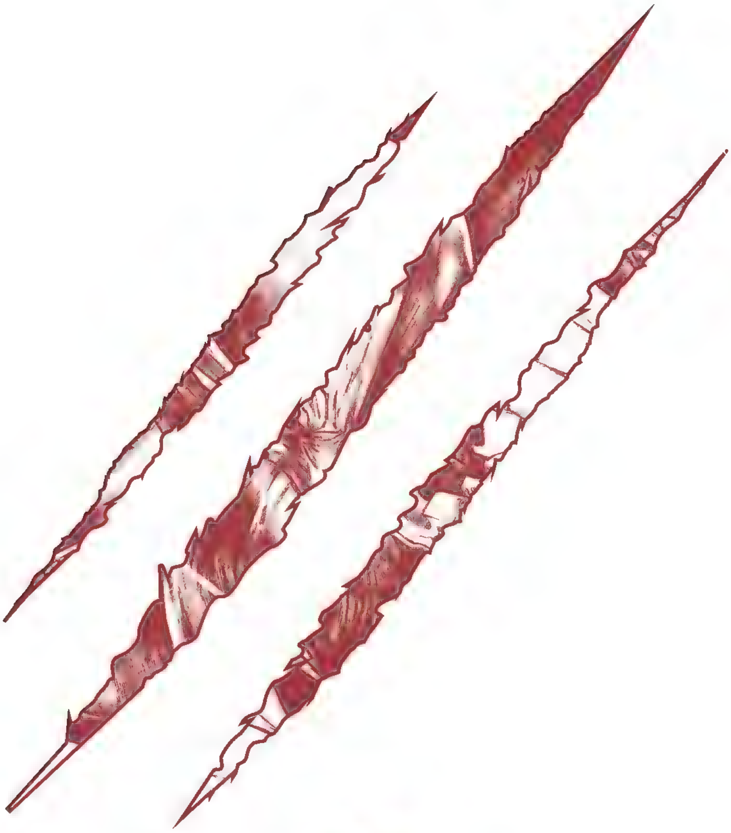
BY **CHRIS CONDON**
& **ALEX LINS**

MARVEL
5
ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN: INCURSION

ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN: INCURSION #5

BY **DENIZ CAMP, CODY ZIGLAR**
& **JONAS SCHARF**

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU! EMAIL US AT **ULTIMATEOFFICE@MARVEL.COM** AND MARK YOUR LETTERS **"OKAY TO PRINT"**!



10

A diabolical genius known as **THE MAKER** used time travel to create his ideal Earth by systematically preventing anyone from ever becoming a super hero and by establishing a secret council of super villains, **THE MAKER'S COUNCIL**, that rules the world from the shadows.

Three of those councilmembers–**COLOSSUS**, **MAGIK** and **OMEGA RED**–run the **EURASIAN REPUBLIC**, one of two places in the world for all known mutant activity. Through their government's top secret division "**DIRECTORATE X**," headed by **DR. ALONYA PROSTOVICH** and designed to exploit the unique genetic powers exhibited in mutantkind, they turned the mutant known as **LOGAN** into their most lethal weapon, the brainwashed **WINTER SOLDIER**.

However, Logan's programming was broken after he reunited with a group of mutant freedom fighters known as **THE OPPOSITION**, taking the name **WOLVERINE**. Despite losing some of their members, the Opposition continued to weaken Directorate X by infiltrating their lab by using a reprogrammed **SENTINEL**. During that ambush, Dr. Prostovich made a hasty escape, hoping to soon eliminate the threat to the Republic...

ULTIMATE WOLVERINE

CAST:

WOLVERINE/
THE WINTER SOLDIER
LOGAN

SPRITE
KITTY PRYDE

GAMBIT
REMY LEBEAU

BLACK WIDOW
NATASHA ROMANOFF

MIKHAIL RASPUTIN
OPPOSITION LEADER

SABRETOOTH
VICTOR CREED

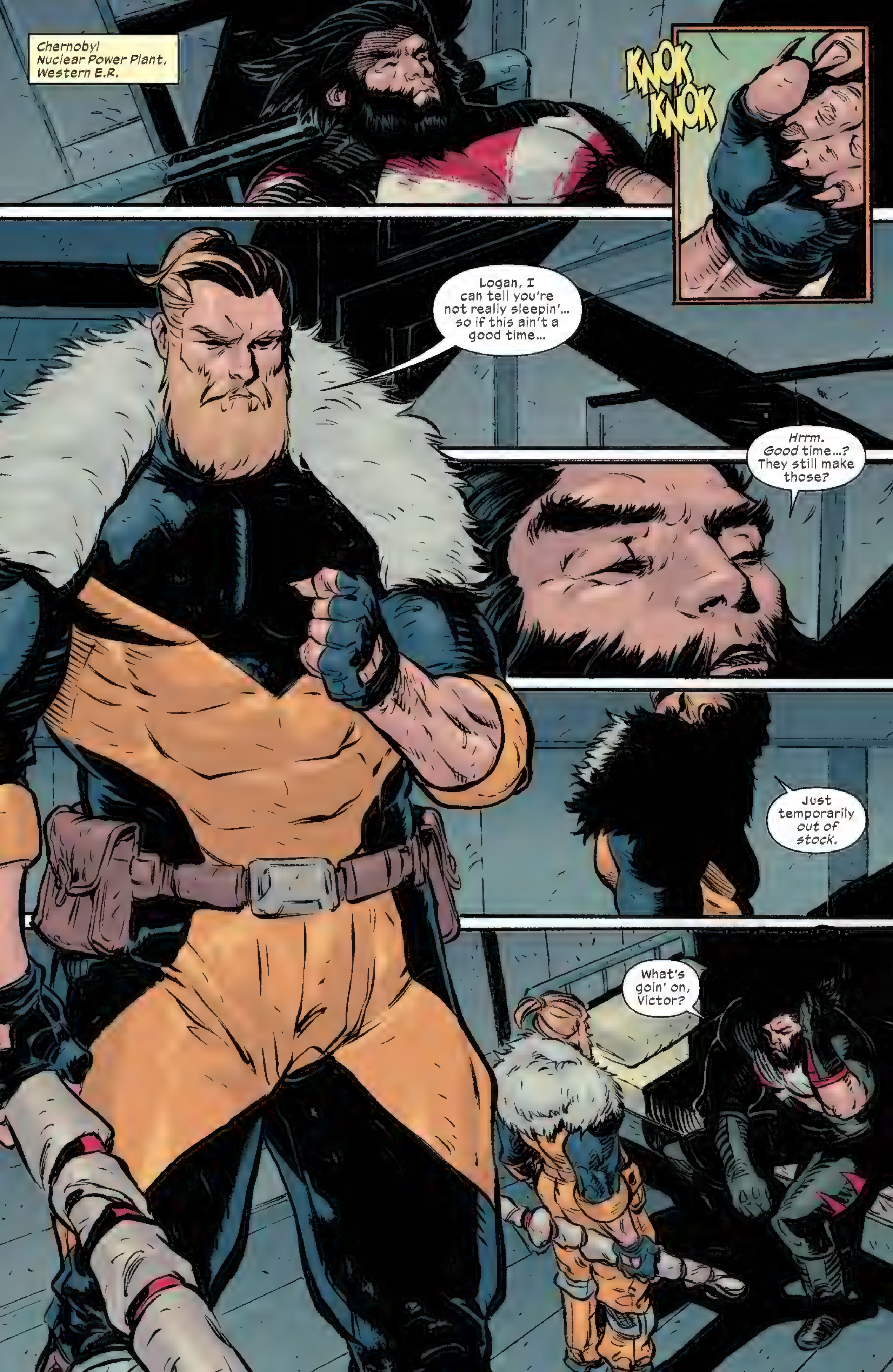
COLOSSUS
PIOTR RASPUTIN

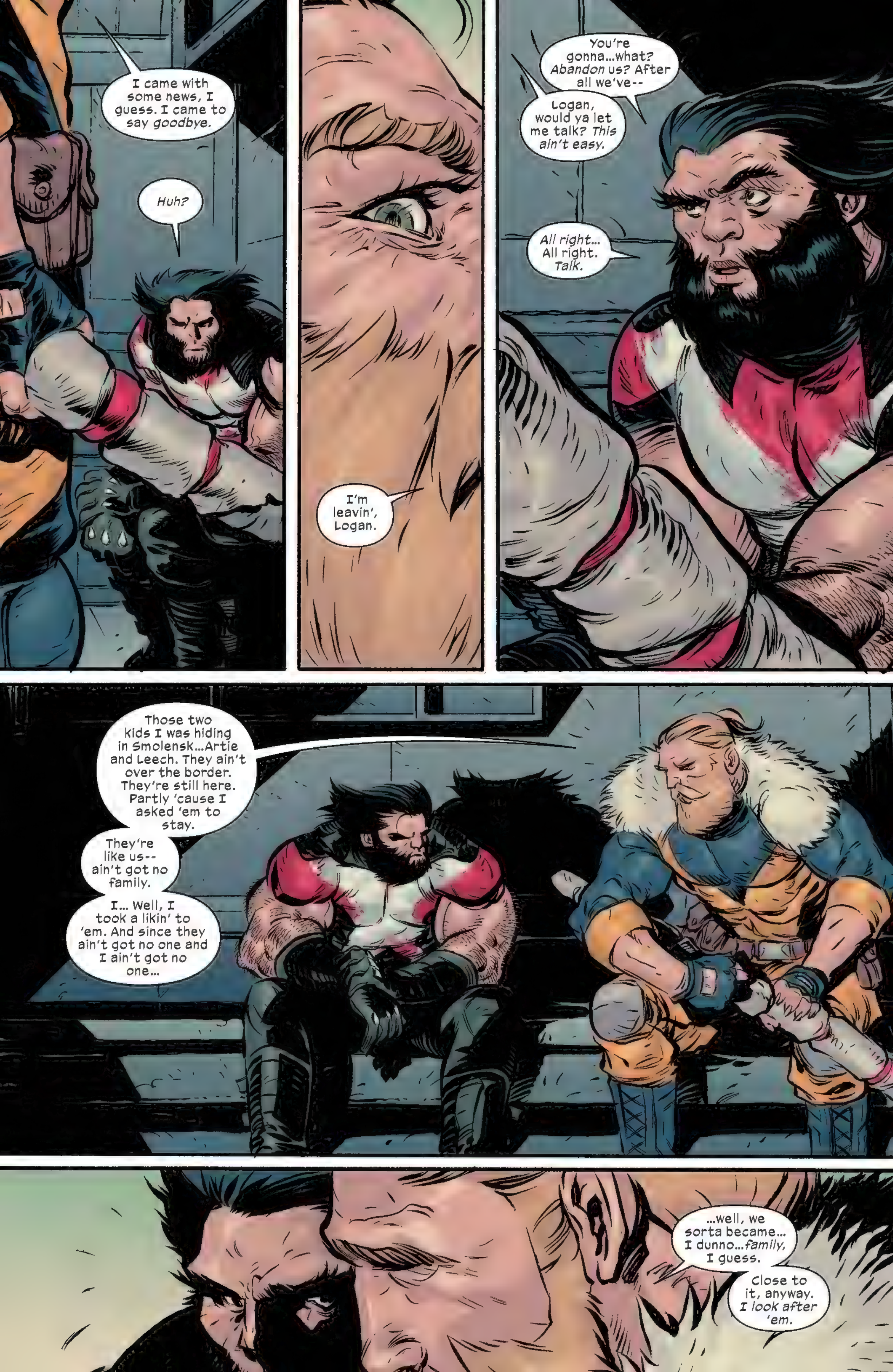
MAGIK
ILLYANA RASPUTIN

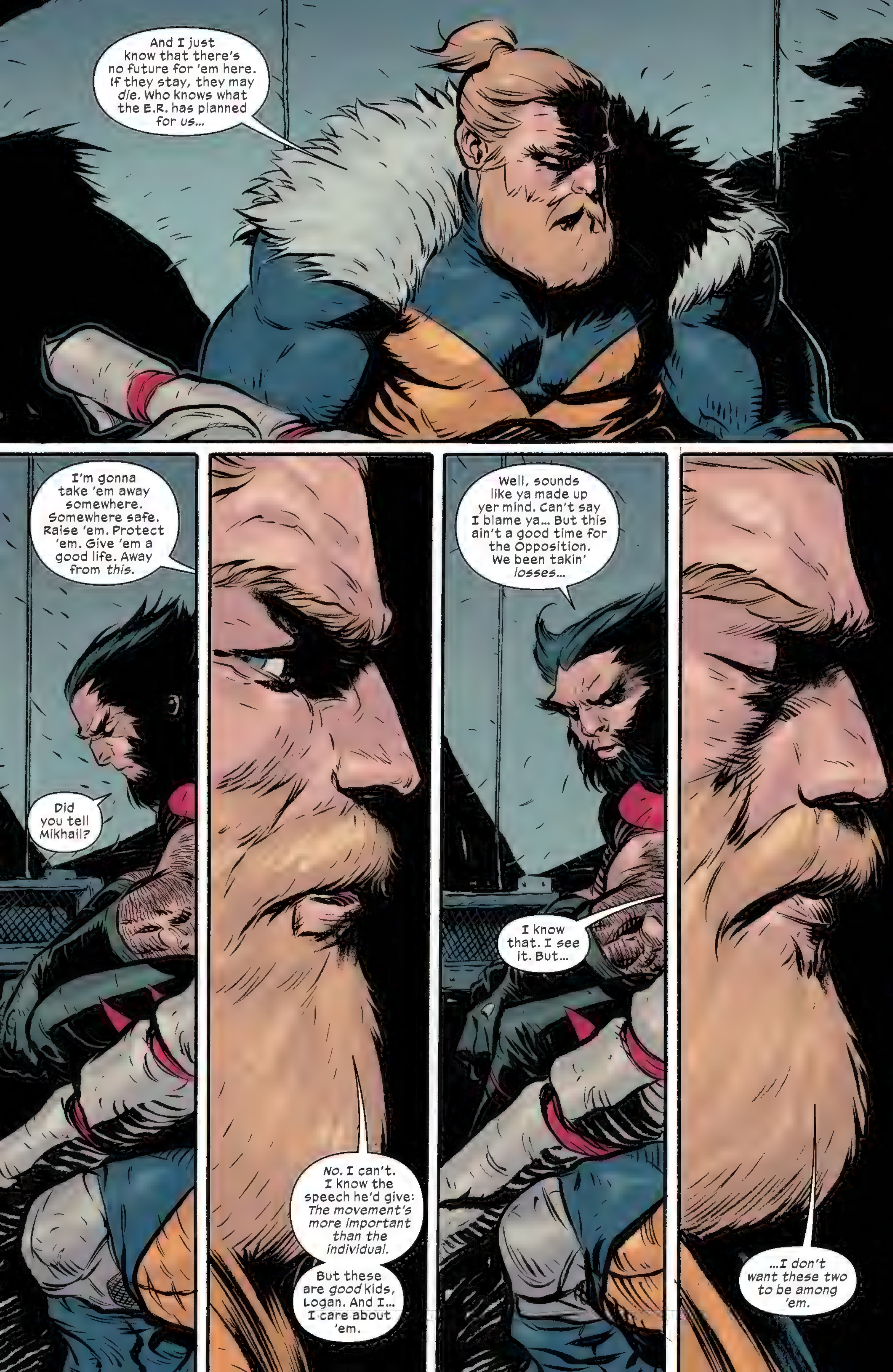
OMEGA RED
ARKADY ROSSOVICH

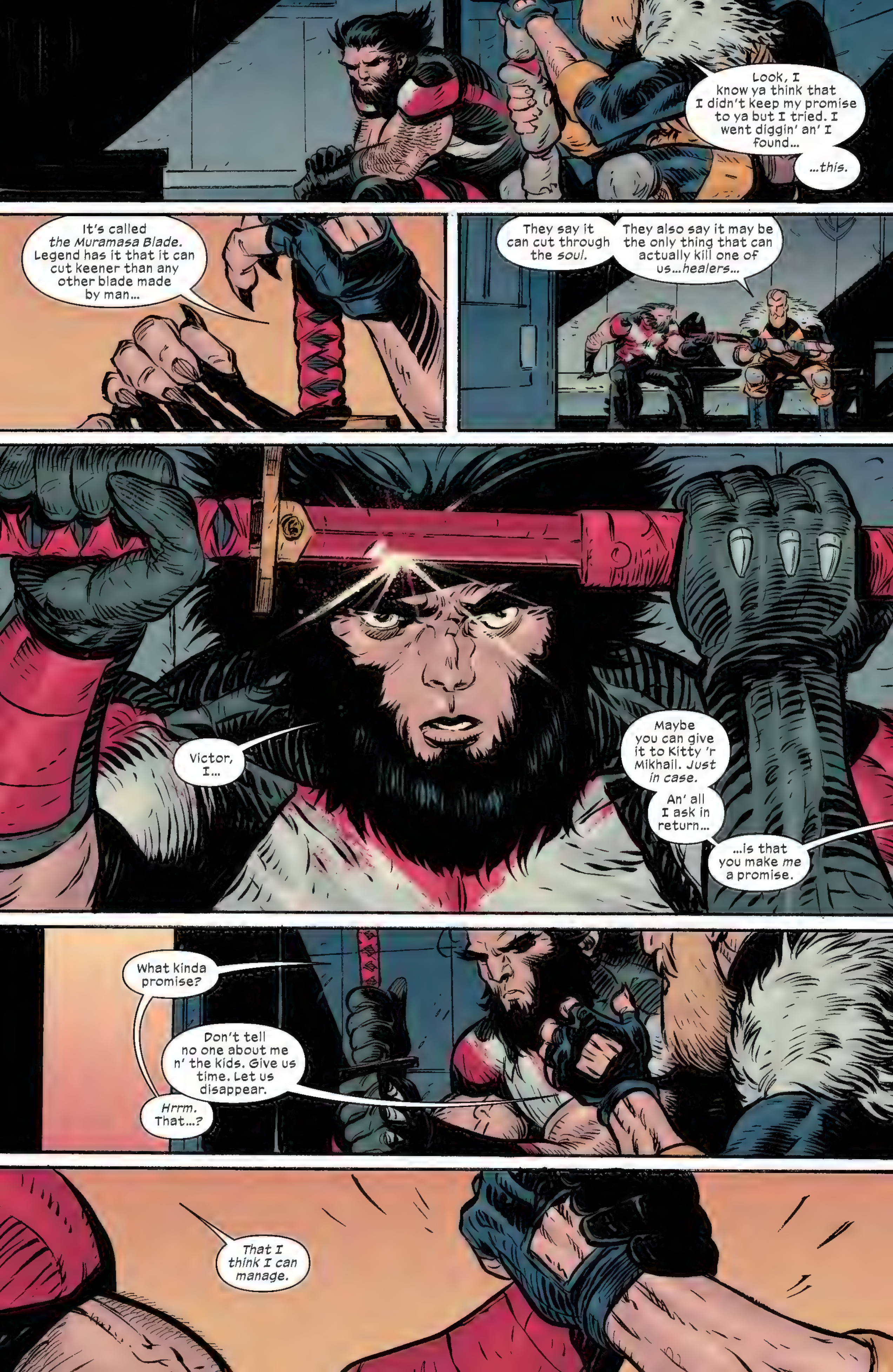
DR. ALONYA
PROSTOVICH
DIRECTORATE X
RESEARCH HEAD

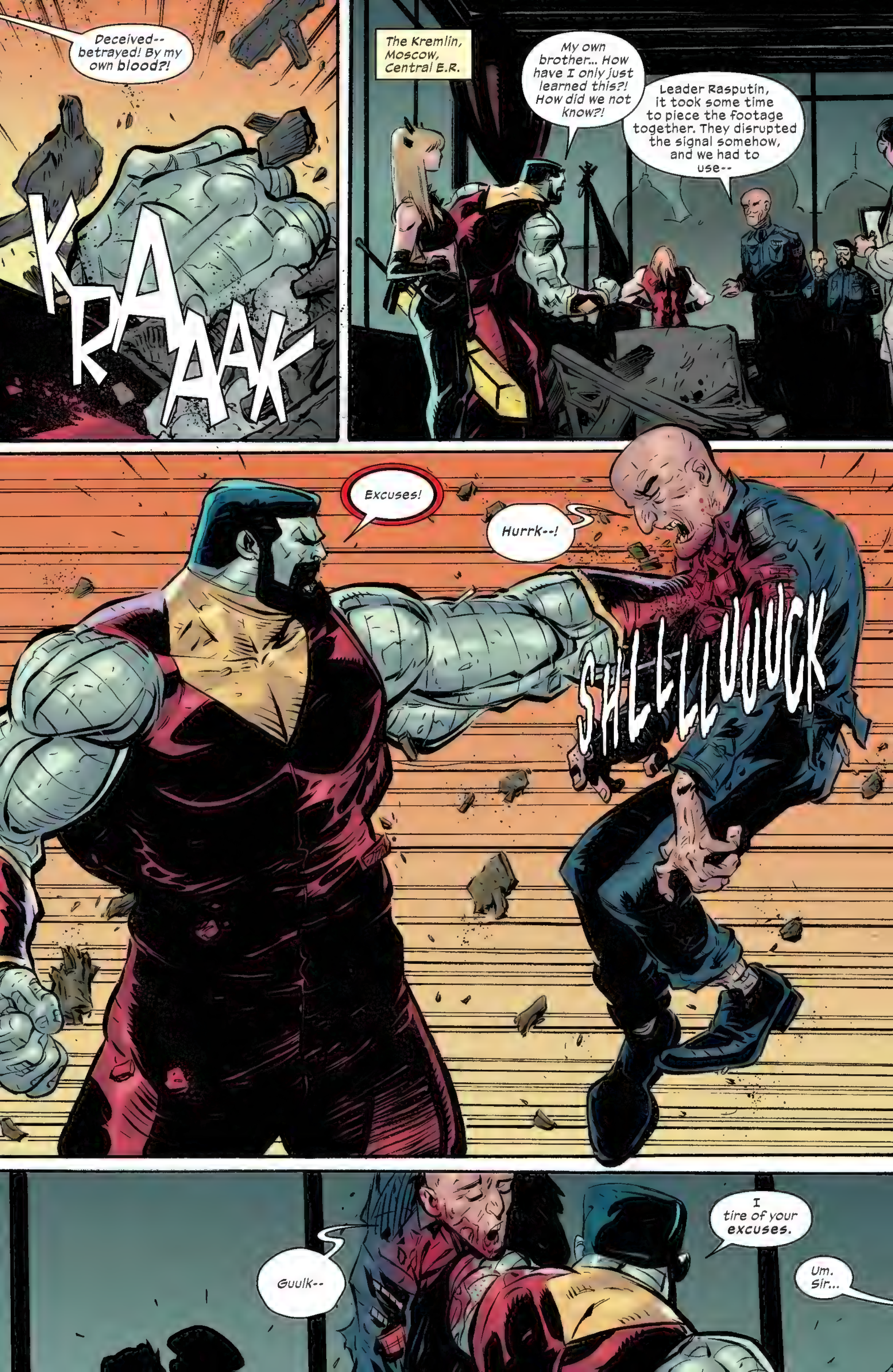
OCTOBER 2025

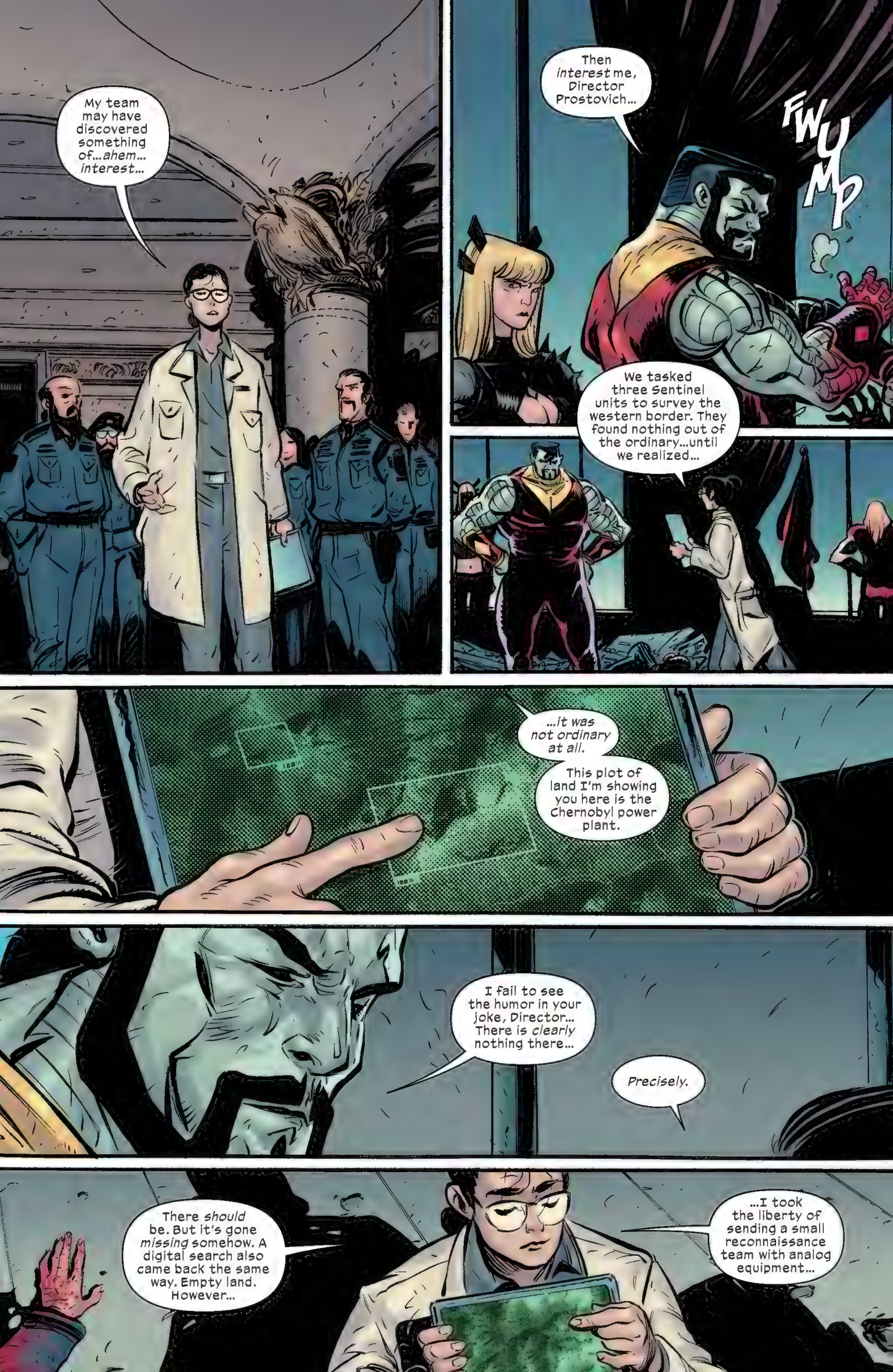

Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant, Western E.R.
KNOK KNOK
Logan, I can tell you're not really sleepin'... so if this ain't a good time...
Hrrm. Good time...? They still make those?
Just temporarily out of stock.
What's goin' on, Victor?

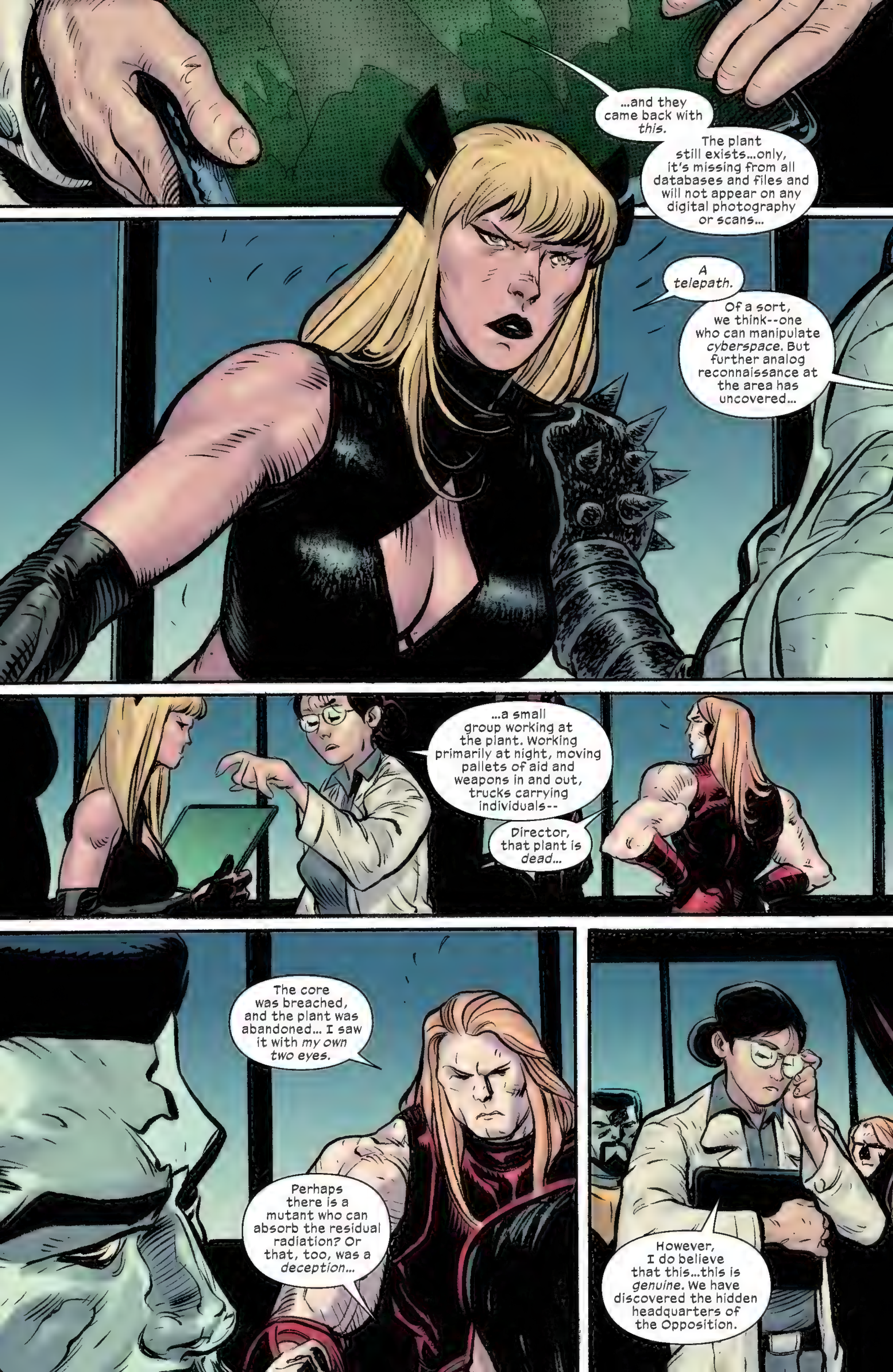

I came with some news, I guess. I came to say *goodbye.*
Huh?
I'm leavin', Logan.
You're gonna...what? *Abandon* us? After all we've--
Logan, would ya let me talk? *This ain't easy.*
All right... All right. Talk.
Those two kids I was hiding in Smolensk...Artie and Leech. They ain't over the border. They're still here. Partly 'cause I asked 'em to stay.
They're like us-- ain't got no family.
I... Well, I took a likin' to 'em. And since they ain't got no one and I ain't got no one...
...well, we sorta became... I dunno...*family,* I guess.
Close to it, anyway. *I look after* 'em.

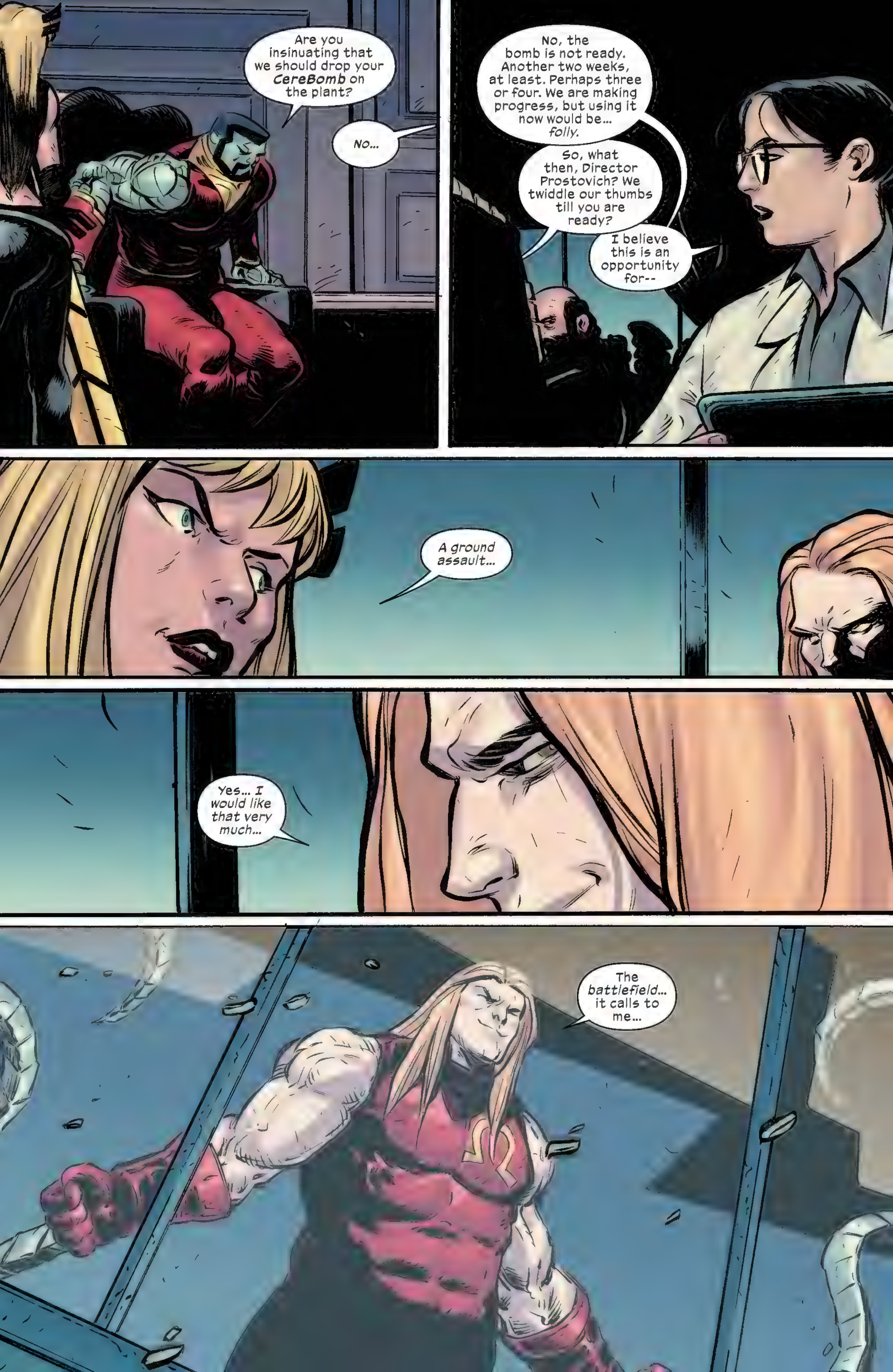

And I just know that there's no future for 'em here. If they stay, they may *die*. Who knows what the E.R. has planned for us...
I'm gonna take 'em away somewhere. Somewhere safe. Raise 'em. Protect 'em. Give 'em a good life. Away from *this*.
Did you tell Mikhail?
No. I can't. I know the speech he'd give: *The movement's more important than the individual.*
But these are *good* kids, Logan. And I... I care about 'em.
Well, sounds like ya made up yer mind. Can't say I blame ya... But this ain't a good time for the Opposition. We been takin' *losses*...
I know that. I see it. But...
...I don't want these two to be among 'em.

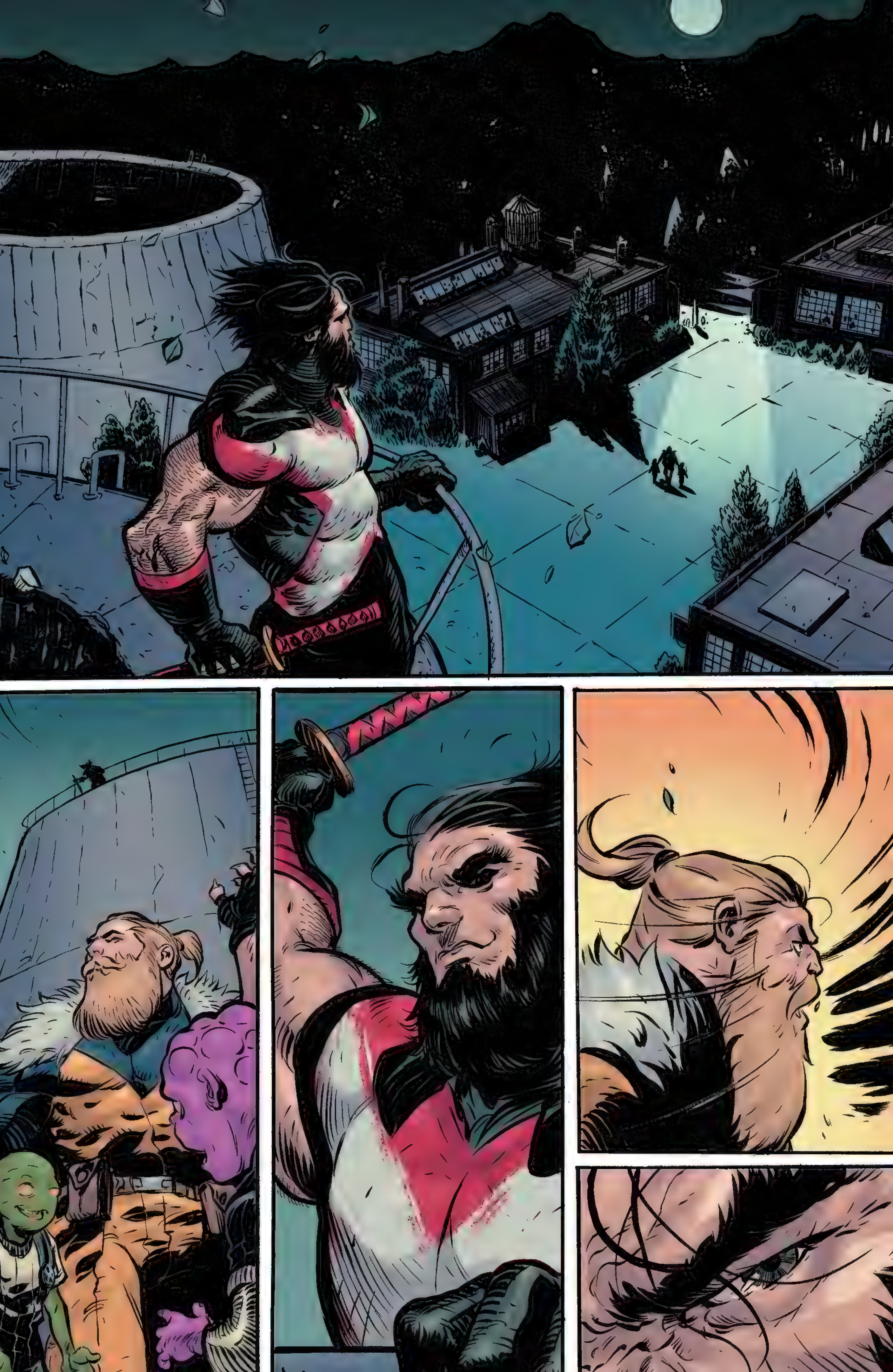

Look, I know ya think that I didn't keep my promise to ya but I tried. I went diggin' an' I found...
...*this.*
It's called *the Muramasa Blade.* Legend has it that it can cut keener than any other blade made by man...
They say it can cut through the *soul.*
They also say it may be the only thing that can actually kill one of us...*healers...*
Victor, I...
Maybe you can give it to Kitty 'r Mikhail. *Just in case.*
An' all I ask in return...
...is that you make *me* a promise.
What kinda promise?
Don't tell no one about me n' the kids. Give us time. Let us disappear.
Hrrm. That...?
That I think I can manage.

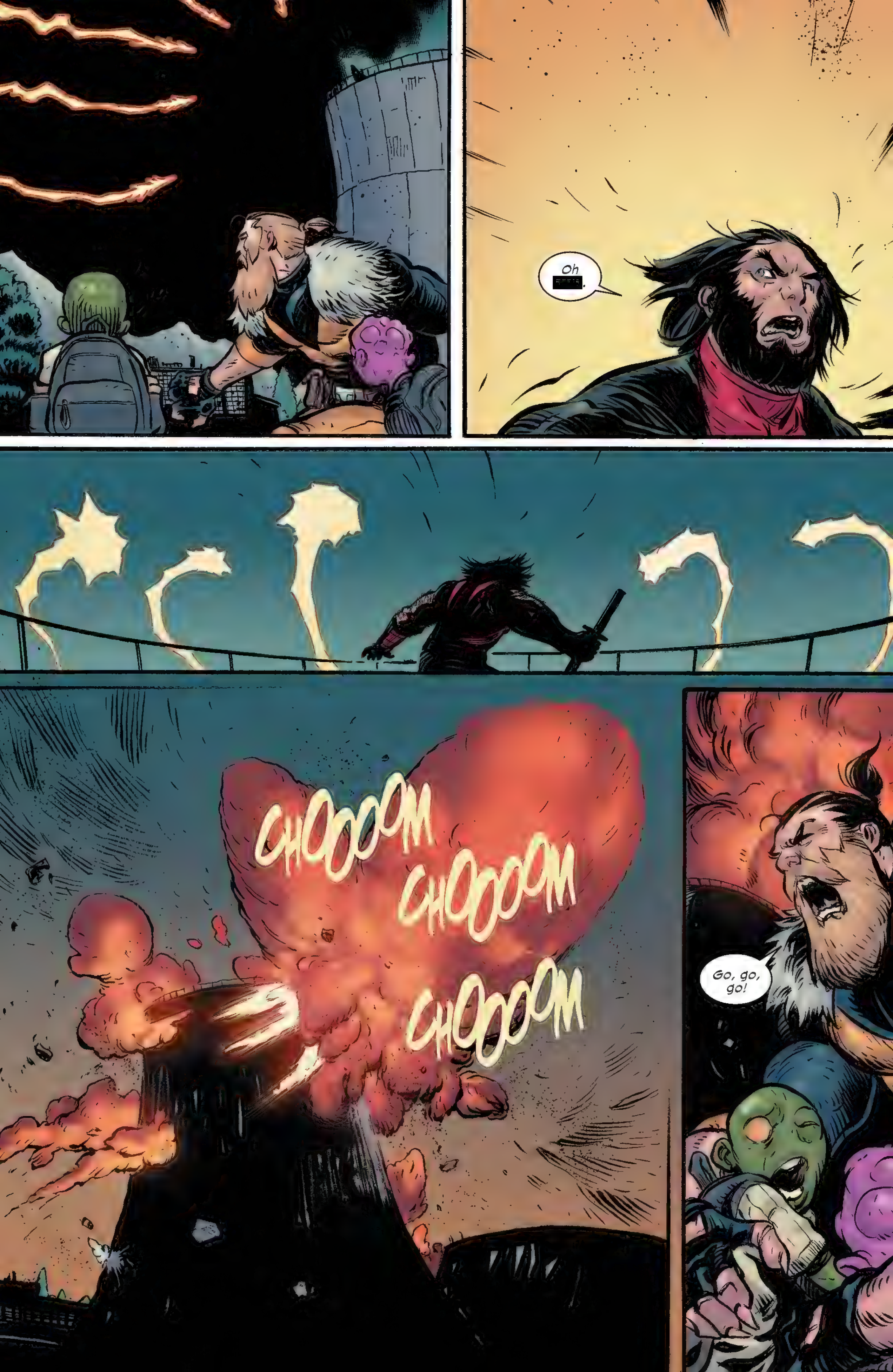

Deceived--betrayed! By my own blood?!
KRAAAK
The Kremlin, Moscow, Central E.R.
My own brother... How have I only just learned this?! How did we not know?!
Leader Rasputin, it took some time to piece the footage together. They disrupted the signal somehow, and we had to use--
Excuses!
Hurrk--!
SHLLLLUUUCK
Guulk--
I tire of your excuses.
Um. Sir...

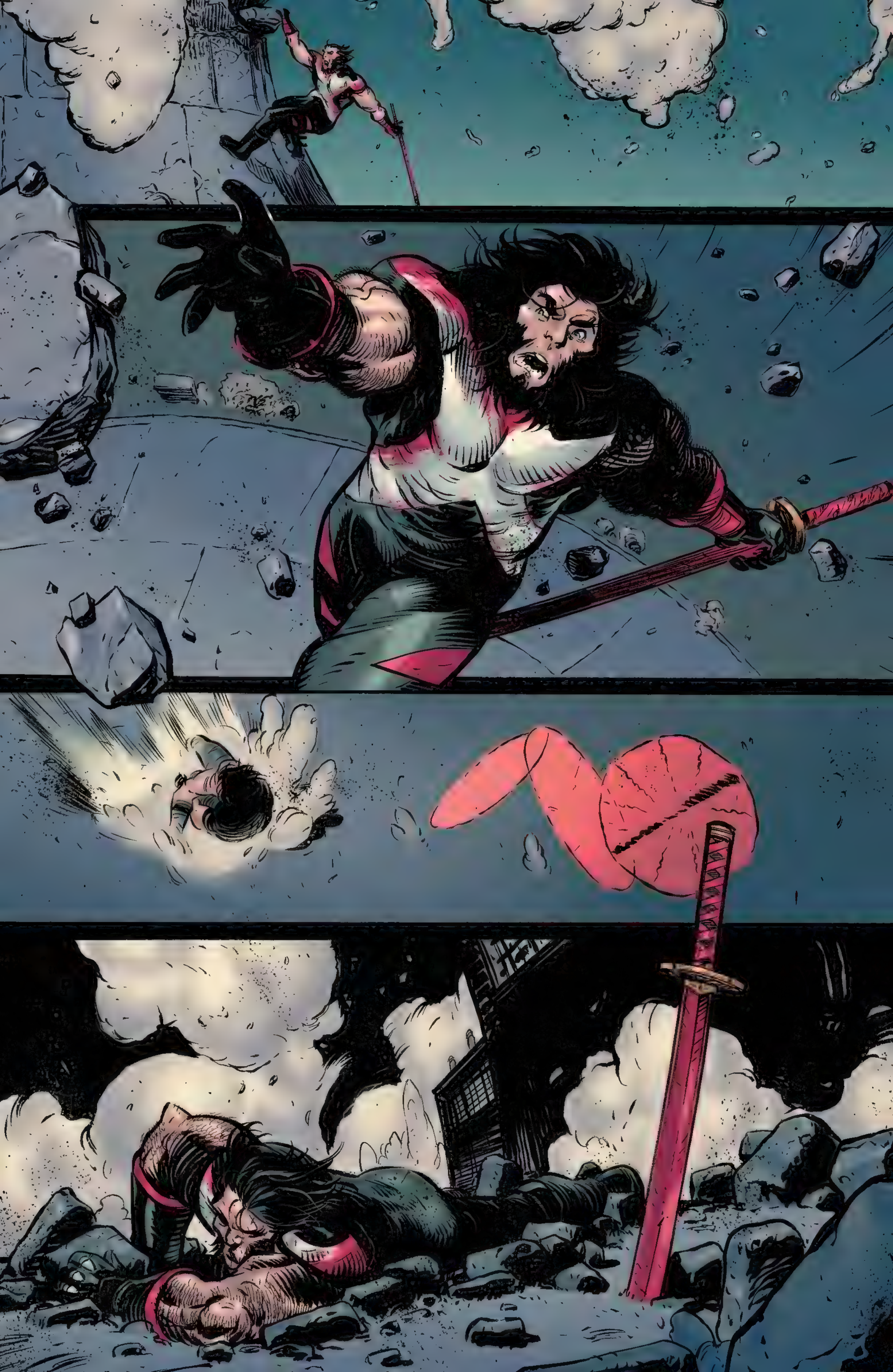

My team may have discovered something of...*ahem*... *interest*...
Then *interest* me, Director Prostovich...
FWUMP
We tasked three Sentinel units to survey the western border. They found nothing out of the ordinary...until we realized...
...it was not ordinary at all.
This plot of land I'm showing you here is the Chernobyl power plant.
I fail to see the humor in your joke, Director... There is *clearly* nothing there...
Precisely.
There *should* be. But it's gone *missing* somehow. A digital search also came back the same way. Empty land. However...
...I took the liberty of sending a small reconnaissance team with analog equipment...

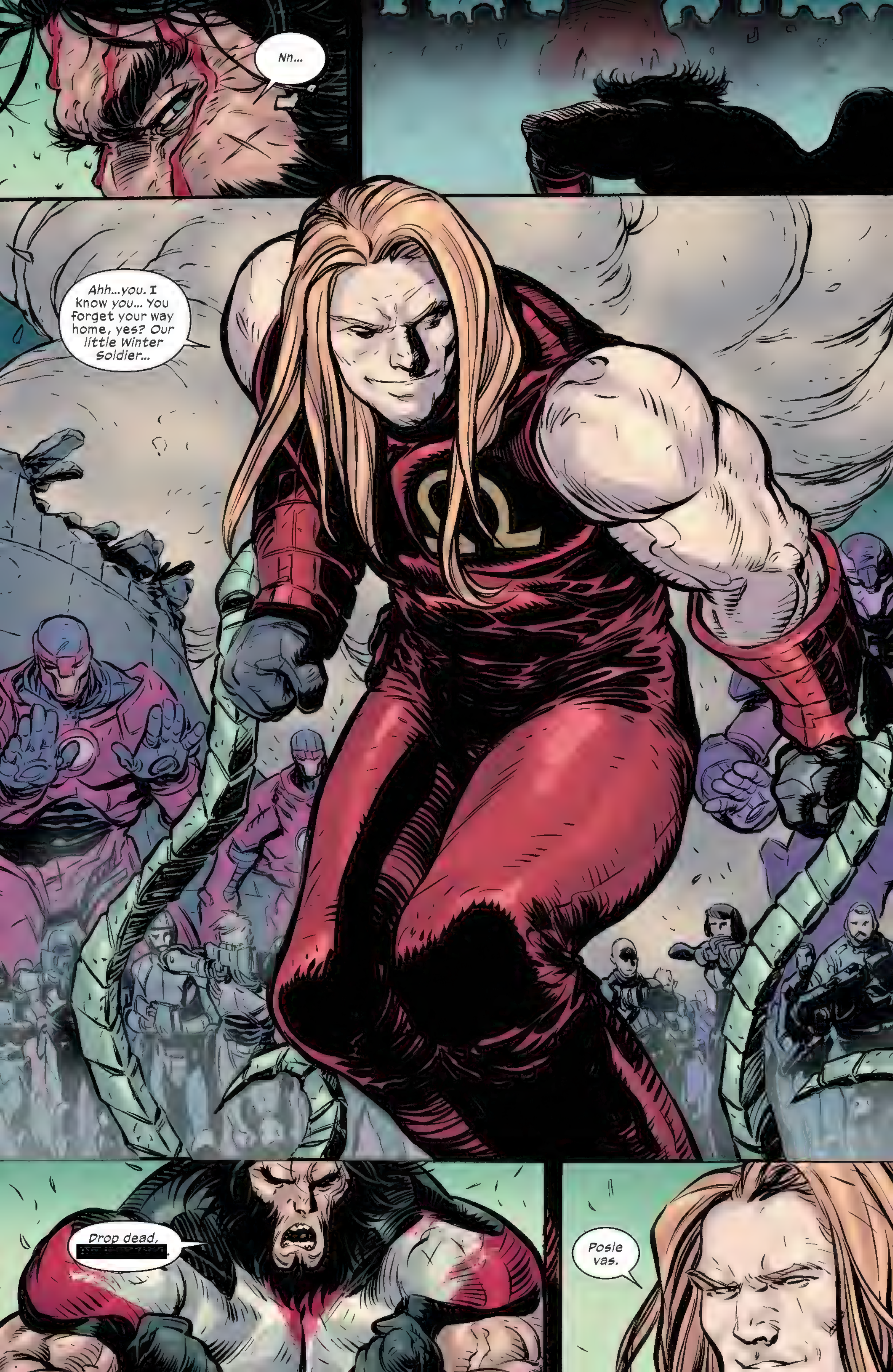

...and they came back with *this.*
The plant still exists...only, it's missing from all databases and files and will not appear on any digital photography or scans...
A *telepath.*
Of a sort, we think--one who can manipulate *cyberspace.* But further analog reconnaissance at the area has uncovered...
...a small group working at the plant. Working primarily at night, moving pallets of aid and weapons in and out, trucks carrying individuals--
Director, that plant is *dead...*
The core was breached, and the plant was abandoned... I saw it with *my own two eyes.*
Perhaps there is a mutant who can absorb the residual radiation? Or that, too, was a *deception...*
However, I do believe that this...this is *genuine.* We have discovered the hidden headquarters of the Opposition.

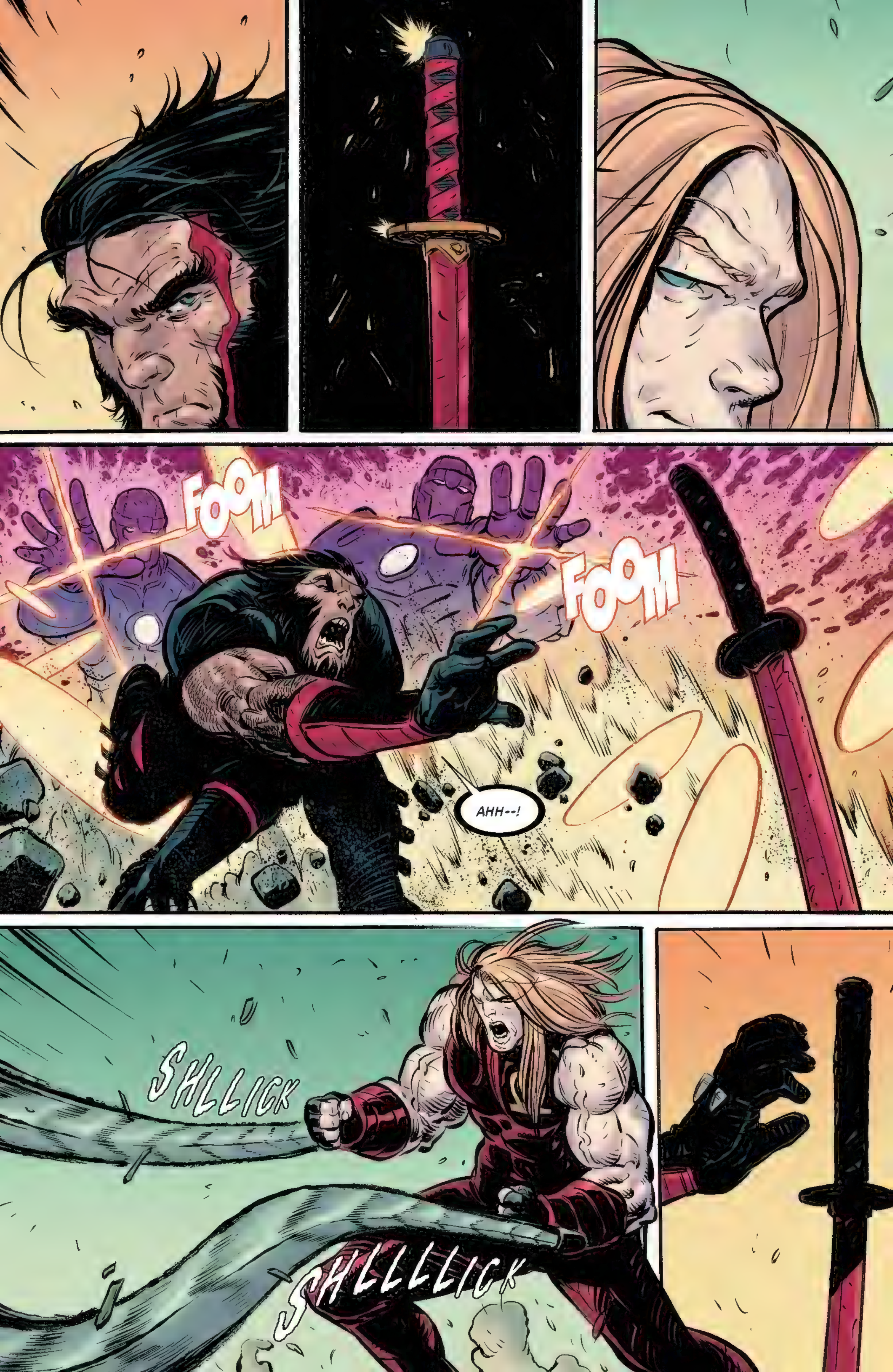

Are you insinuating that we should drop your *CereBomb* on the plant?
No...
No, the bomb is not ready. Another two weeks, at least. Perhaps three or four. We are making progress, but using it now would be... *folly.*
So, what then, Director Prostovich? We twiddle our thumbs till you are ready?
I believe this is an opportunity for--
A ground assault...
Yes... I would like that very much...
The *battlefield...* it calls to me...

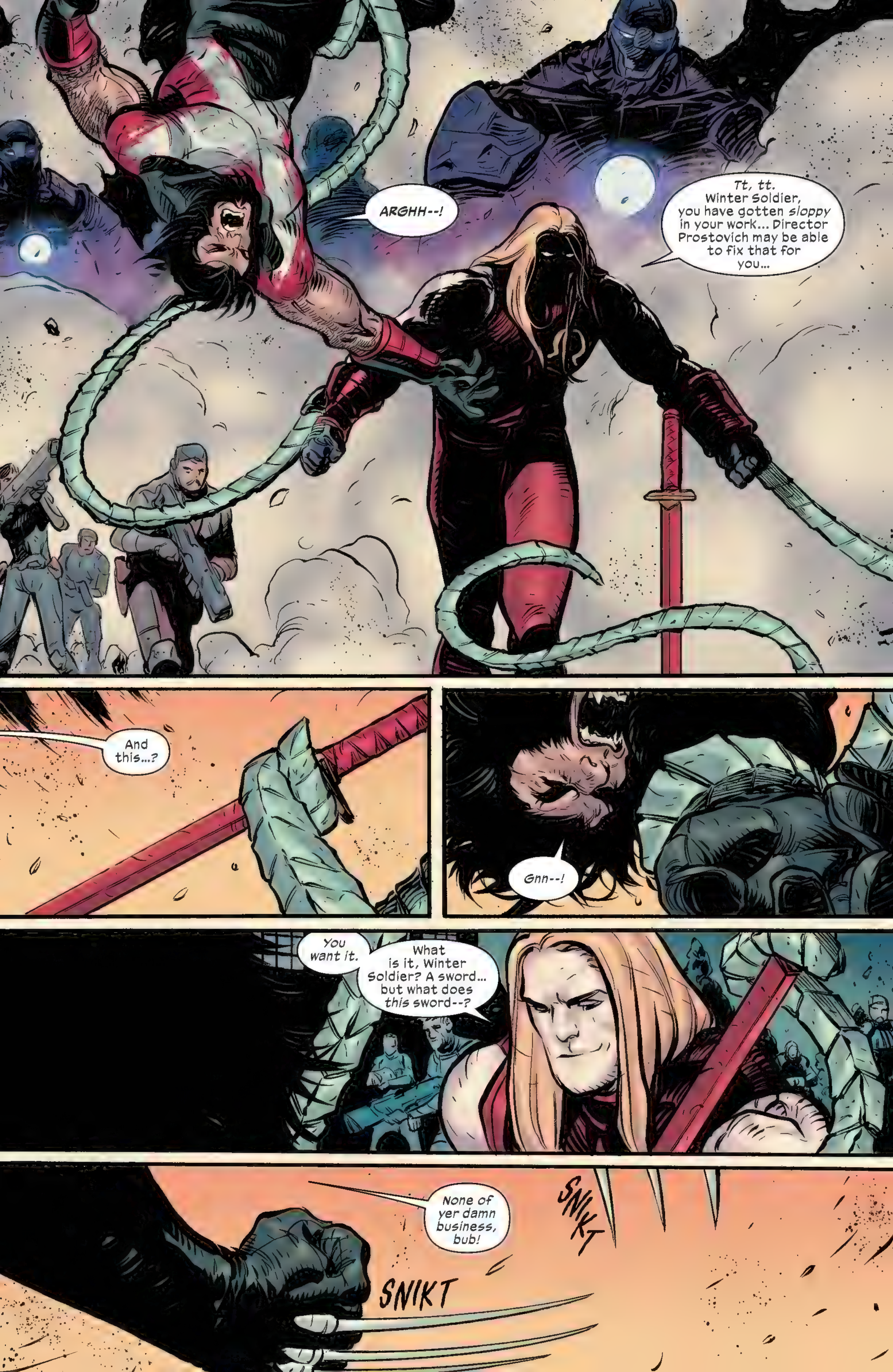


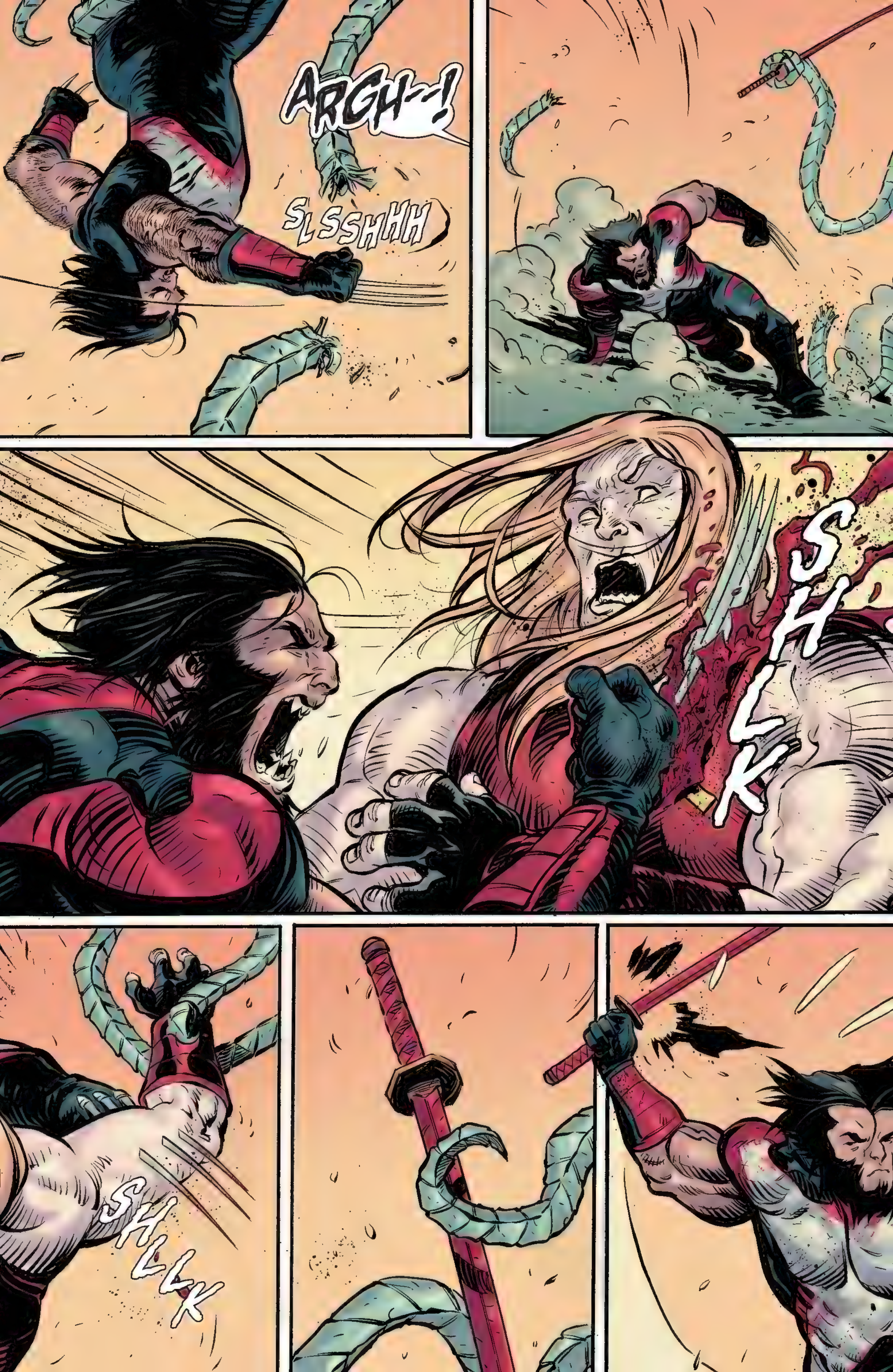

Oh [redacted].
CHOOOOM
CHOOOOM
CHOOOOM
Go, go, go!

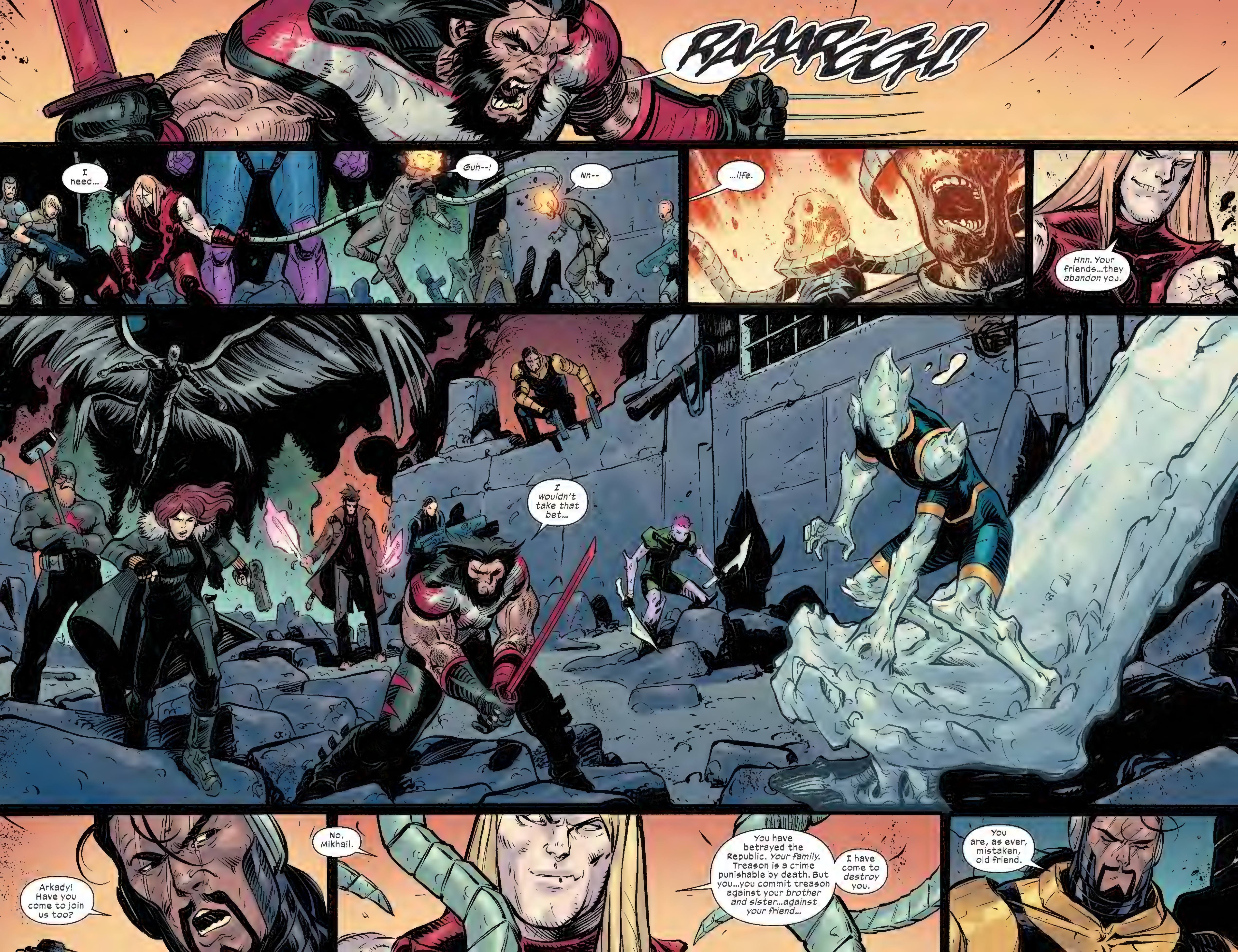


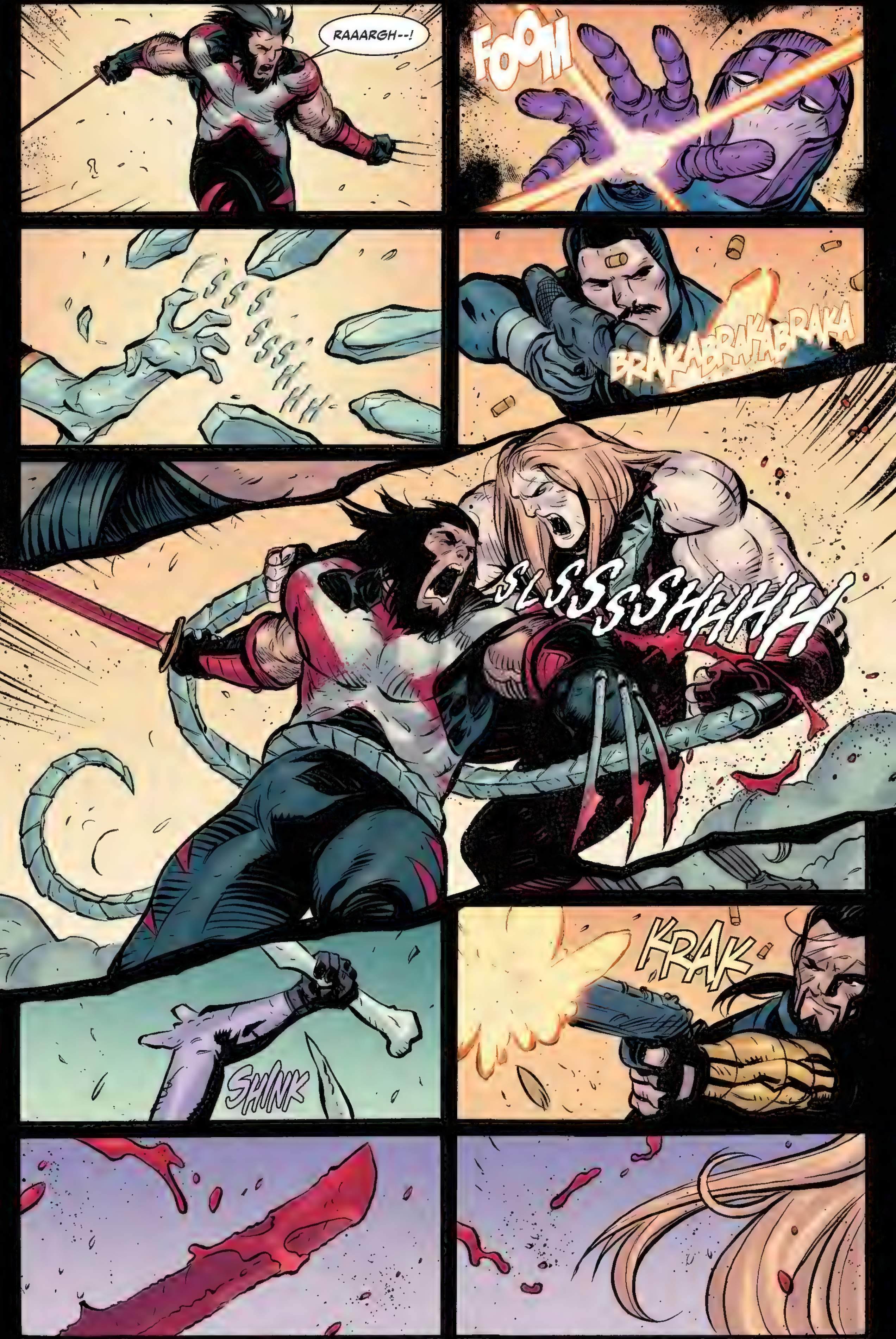

Nn...
Ahh...you. I know you... You forget your way home, yes? Our little Winter Soldier...
Drop dead, [redacted].
Posle vas.

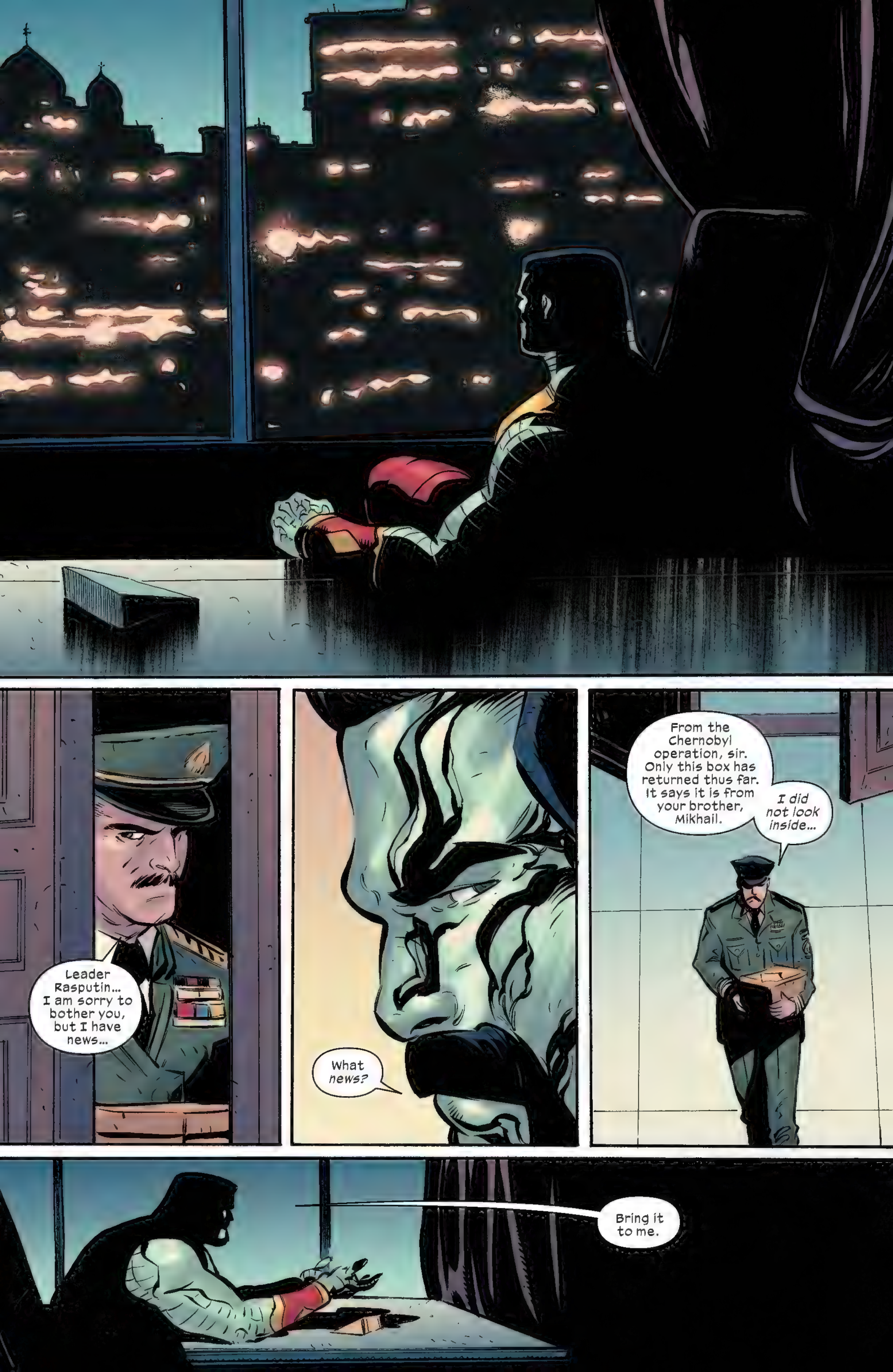

FOOM
FOOM
AHH--!
SHLLICK
SHLLLLICK

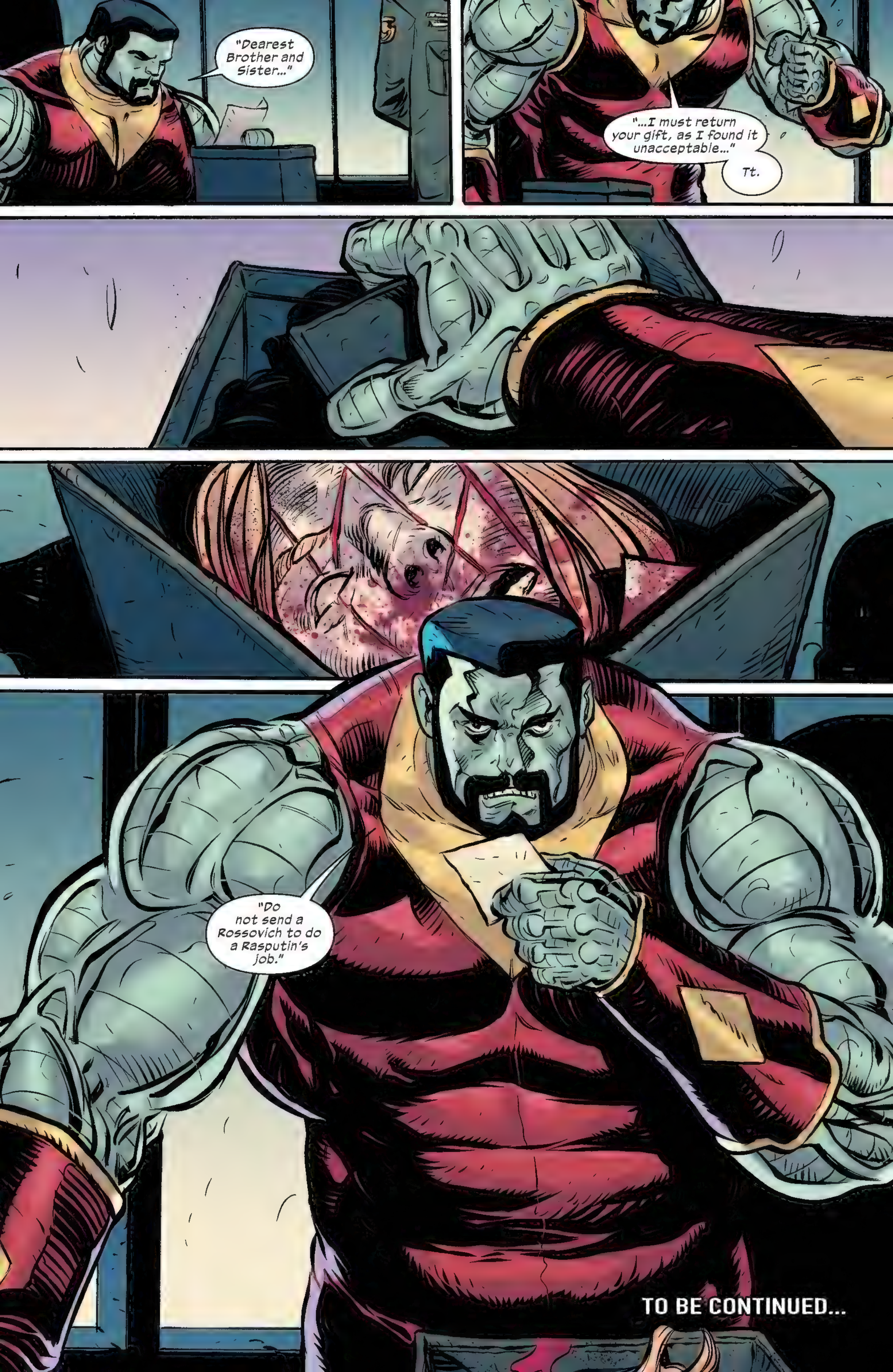

ARGHH--!
Tt, tt. Winter Soldier, you have gotten sloppy in your work... Director Prostovich may be able to fix that for you...
And this...?
Gnn--!
You want it.
What is it, Winter Soldier? A sword... but what does this sword--?
None of yer damn business, bub!
SNIKT
SNIKT

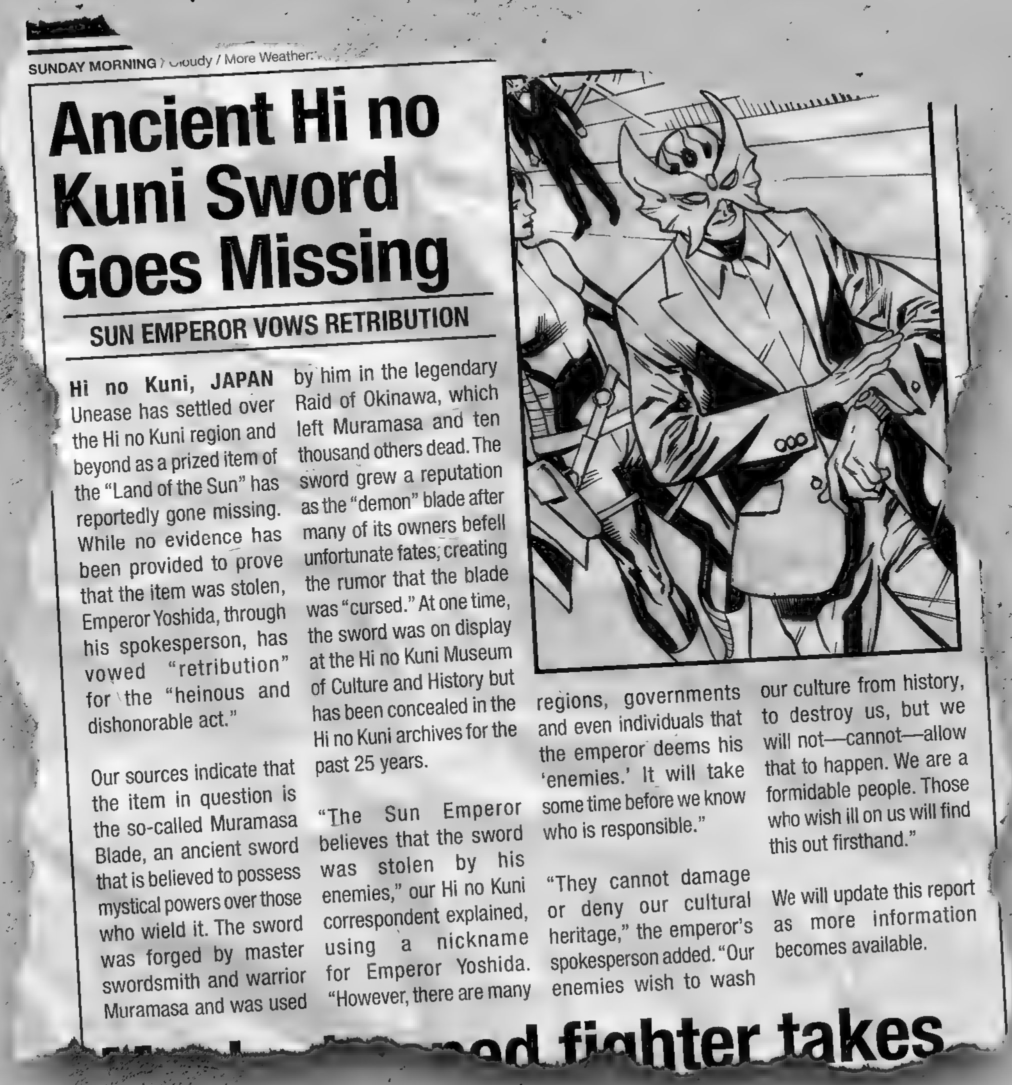

ARGH--!
SLSSHHH
SHLK
SHLLK


RAAARGGH!
I need...
Guh--!
Nn--
...life.
Hnn. Your friends...they abandon you.
I wouldn't take that bet...
Arkady! Have you come to join us too?
No, Mikhail.
You have betrayed the Republic. *Your family.* Treason is a crime punishable by death. But you...you commit treason against your *brother* and *sister*...against *your friend*...
I have come to *destroy* you.
You are, as ever, mistaken, old friend.


RAAARGH--!
FOOM
SSSSSSHHHH
BRAKABRAKABRAKA
SLSSSSHHHHH
SHINK
KRAK


Leader Rasputin... I am sorry to bother you, but I have news...
What news?
From the Chernobyl operation, sir. Only this box has returned thus far. It says it is from your brother, Mikhail.
I did not look inside...
Bring it to me.


"Dearest Brother and Sister..."
"...I must return your gift, as I found it unacceptable..."
Tt.
"Do not send a Rossovich to do a Rasputin's job."
TO BE CONTINUED...



SUNDAY MORNING / Cloudy / More Weather:

Ancient Hi no Kuni Sword Goes Missing

SUN EMPEROR VOWS RETRIBUTION

Hi no Kuni, JAPAN Unease has settled over the Hi no Kuni region and beyond as a prized item of the "Land of the Sun" has reportedly gone missing. While no evidence has been provided to prove that the item was stolen, Emperor Yoshida, through his spokesperson, has vowed "retribution" for the "heinous and dishonorable act."

Our sources indicate that the item in question is the so-called Muramasa Blade, an ancient sword that is believed to possess mystical powers over those who wield it. The sword was forged by master swordsmith and warrior Muramasa and was used by him in the legendary Raid of Okinawa, which left Muramasa and ten thousand others dead. The sword grew a reputation as the "demon" blade after many of its owners befell unfortunate fates, creating the rumor that the blade was "cursed." At one time, the sword was on display at the Hi no Kuni Museum of Culture and History but has been concealed in the Hi no Kuni archives for the past 25 years.

"The Sun Emperor believes that the sword was stolen by his enemies," our Hi no Kuni correspondent explained, using a nickname for Emperor Yoshida. "However, there are many regions, governments and even individuals that the emperor deems his 'enemies.' It will take some time before we know who is responsible."

"They cannot damage or deny our cultural heritage," the emperor's spokesperson added. "Our enemies wish to wash our culture from history, to destroy us, but we will not—cannot—allow that to happen. We are a formidable people. Those who wish ill on us will find this out firsthand."

We will update this report as more information becomes available.

ned fighter takes

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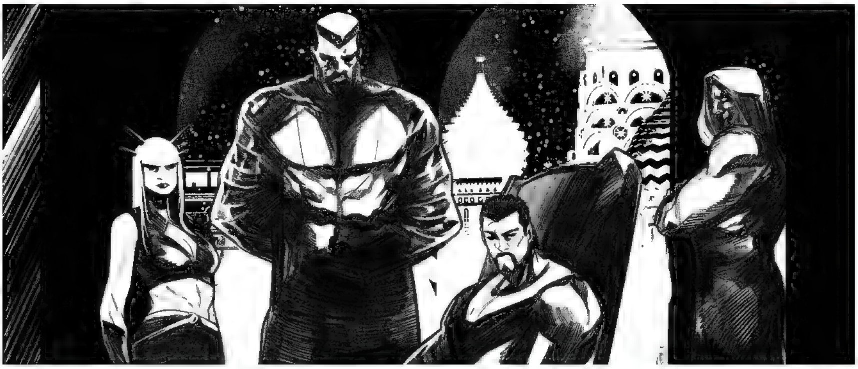
STACK AND SAVE

BREAKING NEWS **EXCLUSIVE**

“I am the strength of the Eurasian Republic”: Director Rossovich speaks to “false news items”

Published August 30, 2023, 4:15 p.m. ET

❝ 587K Comments



ROSSOVICH (FAR RIGHT), PICTURED HERE WITH THE RASPUTINS -- MIKHAIL, PIOTR AND ILLYANA.

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VIDEO WILL PLAY AFTER AD

“I was born to die for my country,” Director Arkady Rossovich says, his chin lifted high; proud. He has agreed to this interview following claims in the news media that he was a “face” for the Republic’s government, but nothing more—a claim that Director Rossovich vehemently denies.

“This Republic was born of the blood of its founders,” Rossovich explained. “It is only right that it continues to rely on the blood of its leaders to maintain its sovereignty in this ever-evolving and always-dangerous world in which we live. I will not allow the Eurasian Republic to be cowed by the whims of current events or false news items.”

The “false news items” that Director Rossovich seems to be referring to are from foreign news agencies, the North American Union’s *The Paper* among them, that have claimed that Rossovich had manufactured his storied war experiences and accolades.

When asked about these accusations, Director Rossovich grins widely. “I know what I have done. I know who I have done them to. If these ‘false news’ purveyors wish to make such sad claims, that is their prerogative. But it could not be further from the truth. I have led the armies of the Eurasian Republic into battle on countless occasions. My soldiers—my comrades—know that I bleed and fight alongside them.”

The Paper, in particular, points toward differing accounts from the noted Battle of Kyiv, the defining 2007 victory by the Eurasian Republic against insurgent forces. Director Rossovich is often depicted in murals, official paintings and even statues across the Republic as leading the charge, holding a Eurasian Republic flag above his head as he runs headlong into battle. *The Paper* claims that soldiers on the front lines did not see Director Rossovich on the battlefield—not until the fighting had all but concluded.

“Lies,” Director Rossovich says, frowning, folding his arms over his chest. “All lies. These North American ‘news journalists’ would not understand war. They do not understand the Eurasian Republic, its people or what gives us strength against our adversaries. I invite them to step foot inside of our borders, though I do not think they will,” he grins, “as I will not be issuing any security guarantees.”

“I stand today as I have always stood,” Director Rossovich says, a fist held to his chest, “a fierce defender of this Republic. I will not let cheap slanderous comments deter me from my goal—ensuring the survival of this land and its people.”

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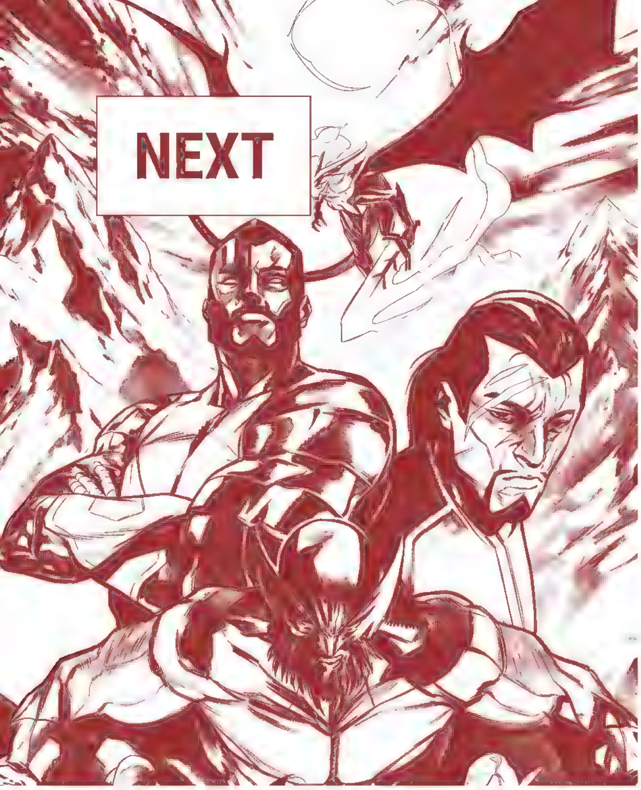

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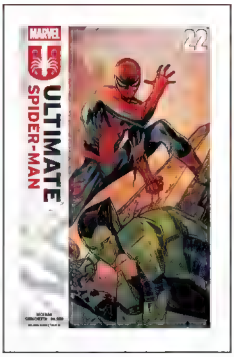
WOLVERINE
CONDON
LINS | VALENZA

ON SALE IN **NOVEMBER**

ON SALE THIS MONTH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X-MEN

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THE
ULTIMATES

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ULTIMATE
SPIDER-MAN: INCURSION

ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN: INCURSION #5

BY **DENIZ CAMP**, **CODY ZIGLAR**
& **JONAS SCHARF**

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23

Twenty years ago, **THE MAKER** prevented a radioactive spider from biting a young **PETER PARKER**. He likewise prevented the creation of any other super heroes and formed a secret council to rule the world from the shadows.

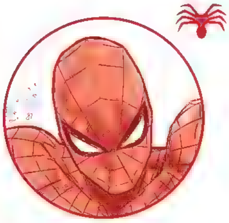
Twenty-three months ago, **TONY STARK** sent Peter that same radioactive spider along with a picotech suit. Since then, Peter has used the incredible powers granted by the spider's bite to fight crime as **SPIDER-MAN**, joined by his friend **HARRY OSBORN**, a.k.a. **GREEN GOBLIN**.

KINGPIN wants them dead. So does his ally **MR. NEGATIVE**, who learned the truth about their **SINISTER SIX** teammate **MYSTERIO**—that he was actually five different people sharing the mantle, one of whom is **GWEN STACY**, Harry's wife. Mr. Negative bombed the Council of Mysterio, but the five united into one single, ghoulish form to save their lives.

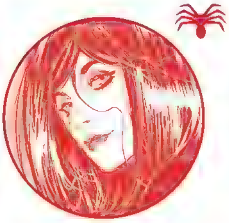
Meanwhile, with the help of ex-Sinister Six member **MOLE MAN**, the Parker family and their allies—including **OTTO OCTAVIUS**, the newly powered **SUPERIOR SPIDER-MAN**—have taken refuge underground.

ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN

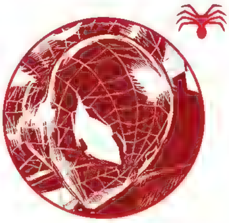
CAST:



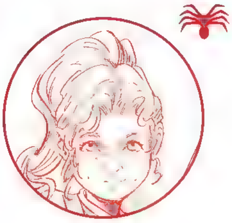
PETER PARKER
SPIDER-MAN



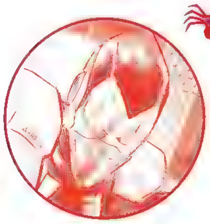
MJ WATSON-PARKER
PR GURU



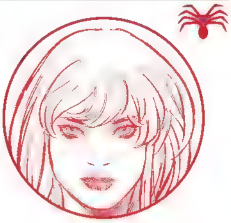
RICHARD PARKER
PETER AND MJ'S SON



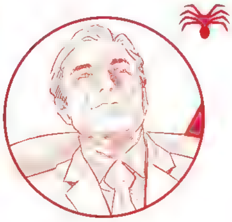
MAY PARKER
PETER AND MJ'S DAUGHTER



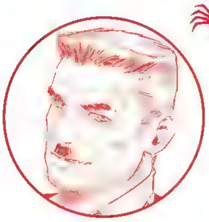
HARRY OSBORN
GREEN GOBLIN



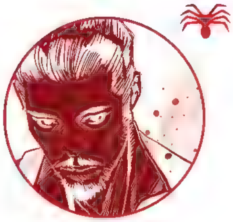
GWEN STACY
HARRY'S WIFE, MYSTERIO



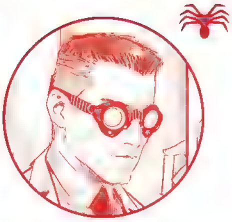
BEN PARKER
PETER'S UNCLE



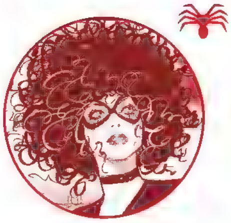
J. JONAH JAMESON
BEN'S BUSINESS PARTNER



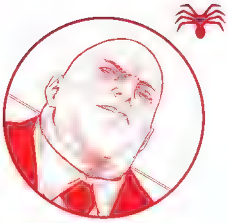
MR. NEGATIVE
ONE OF THE SINISTER SIX



OTTO OCTAVIUS
SUPERIOR SPIDER-MAN

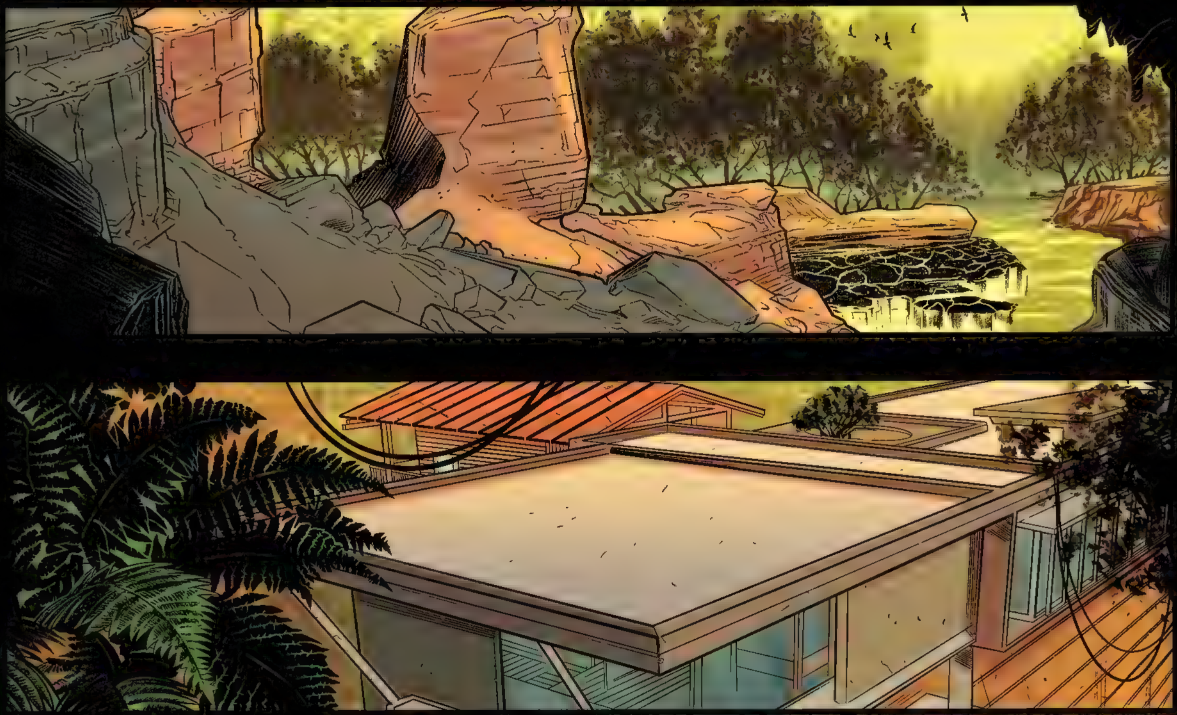


FELICIA HARDY
BLACK CAT

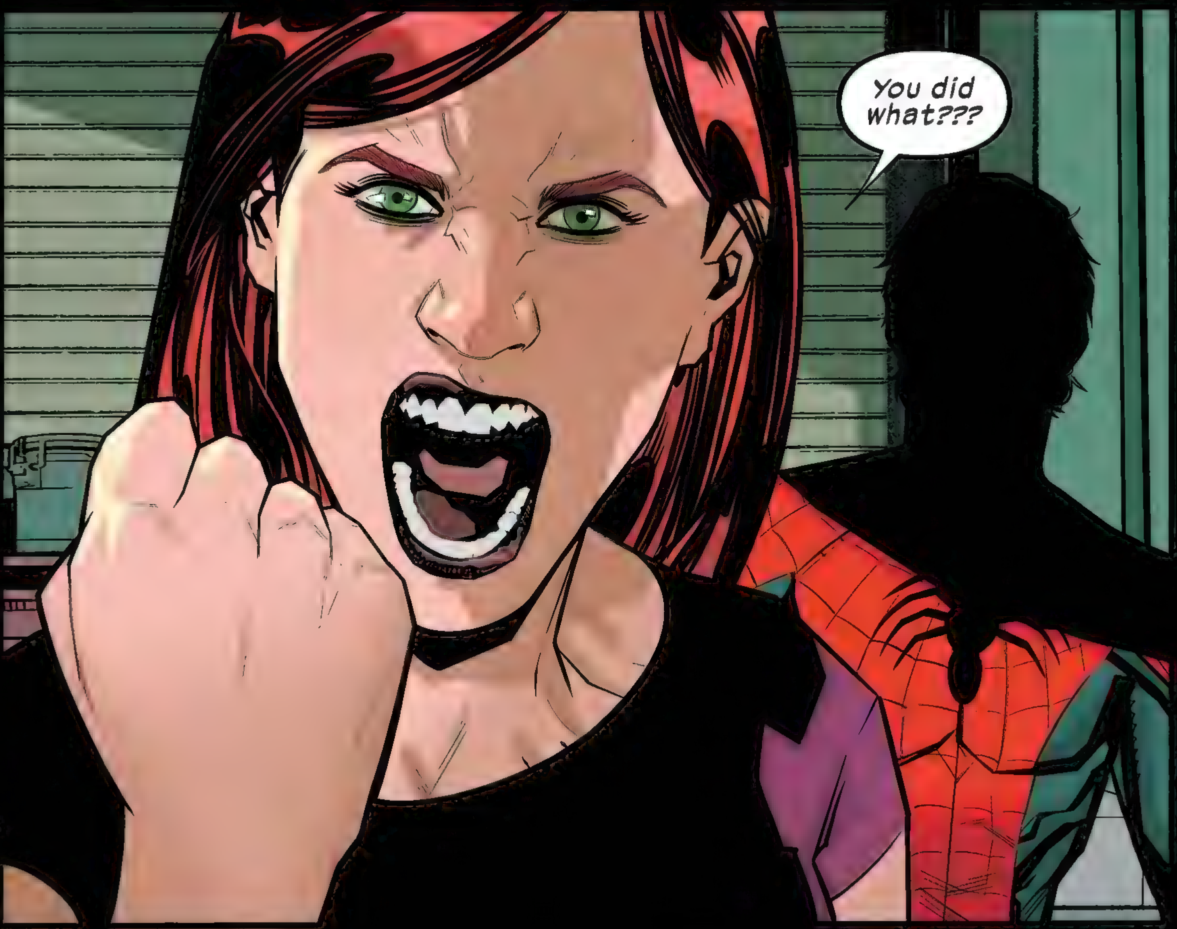


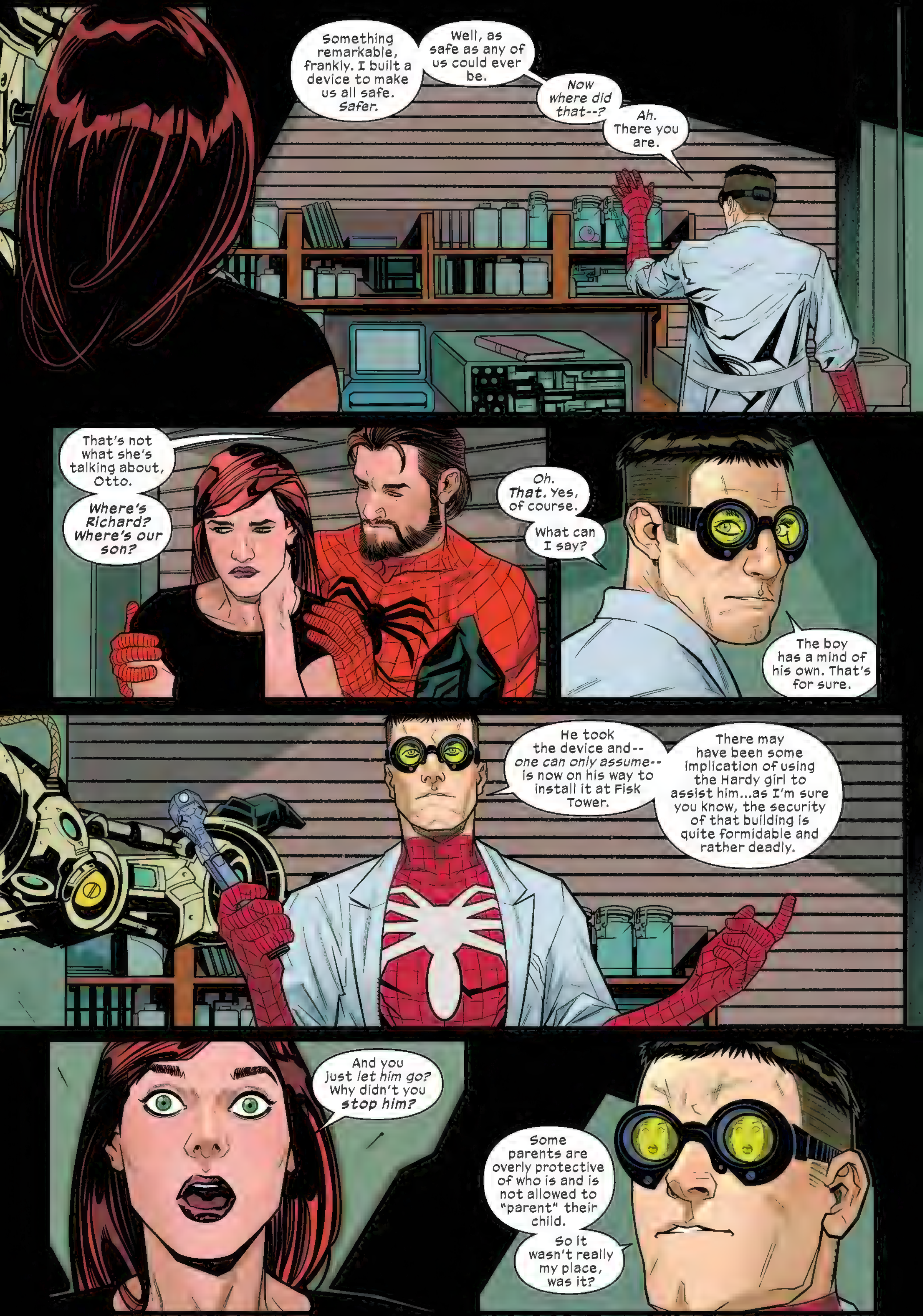
WILSON FISK
KINGPIN

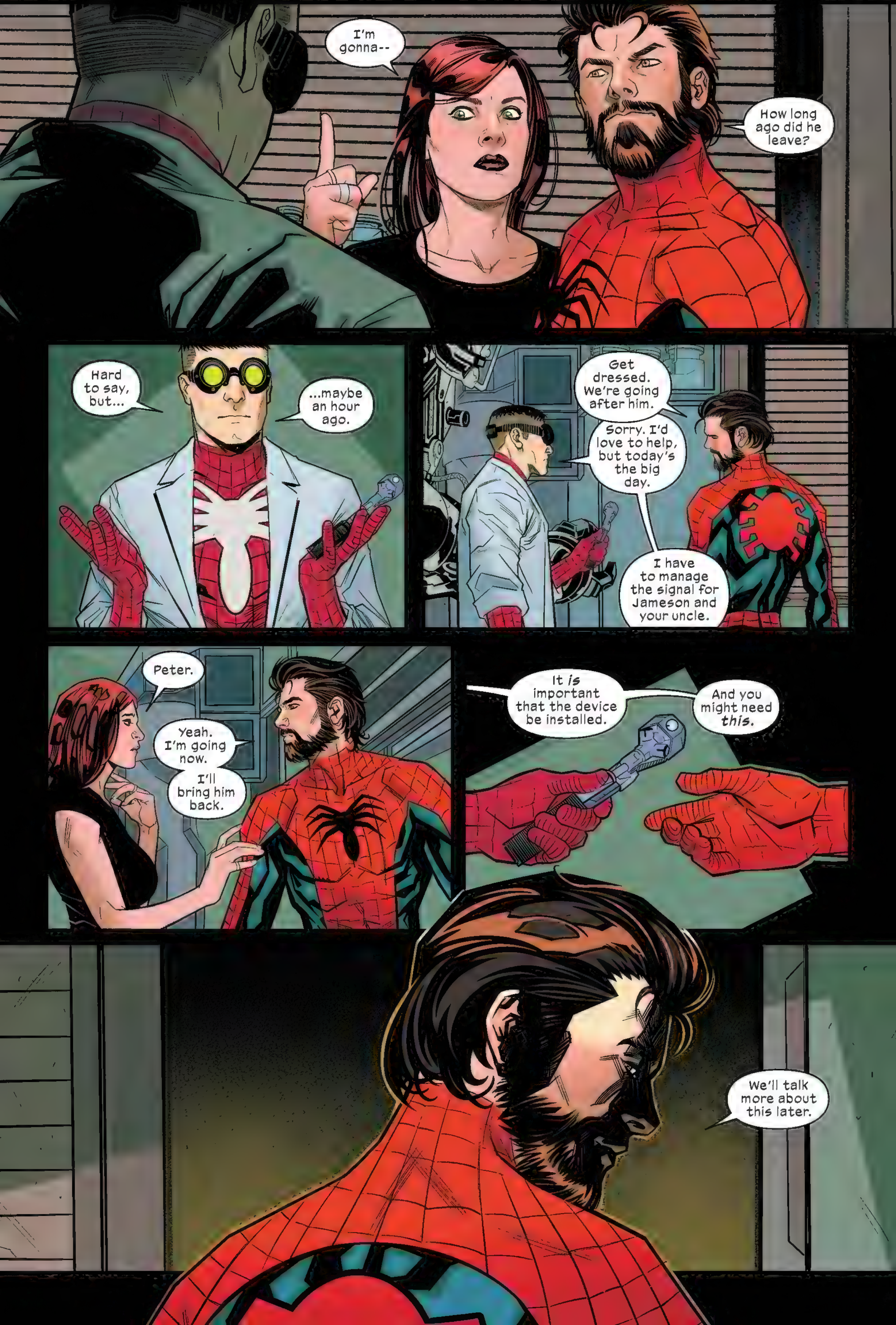
2025

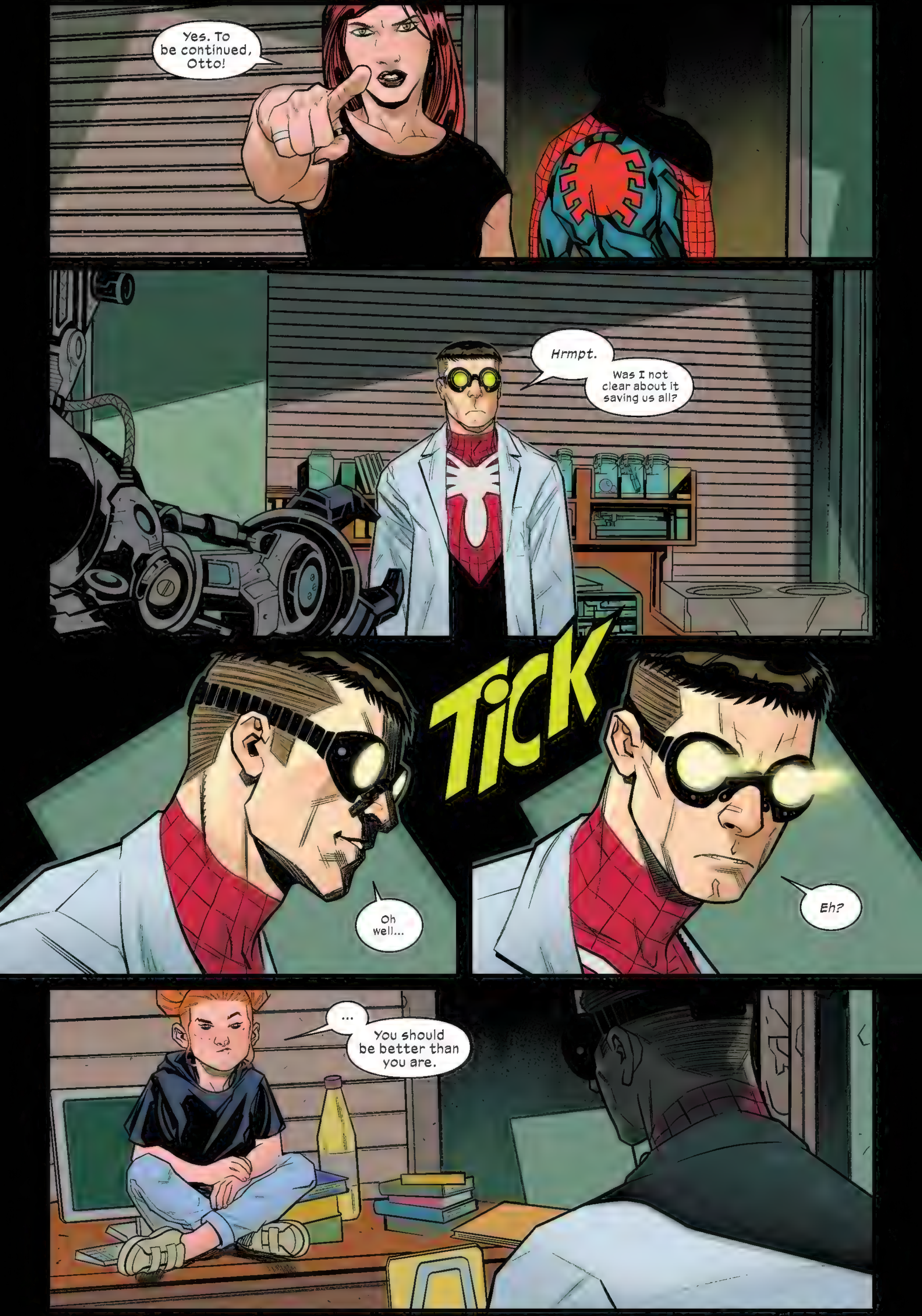


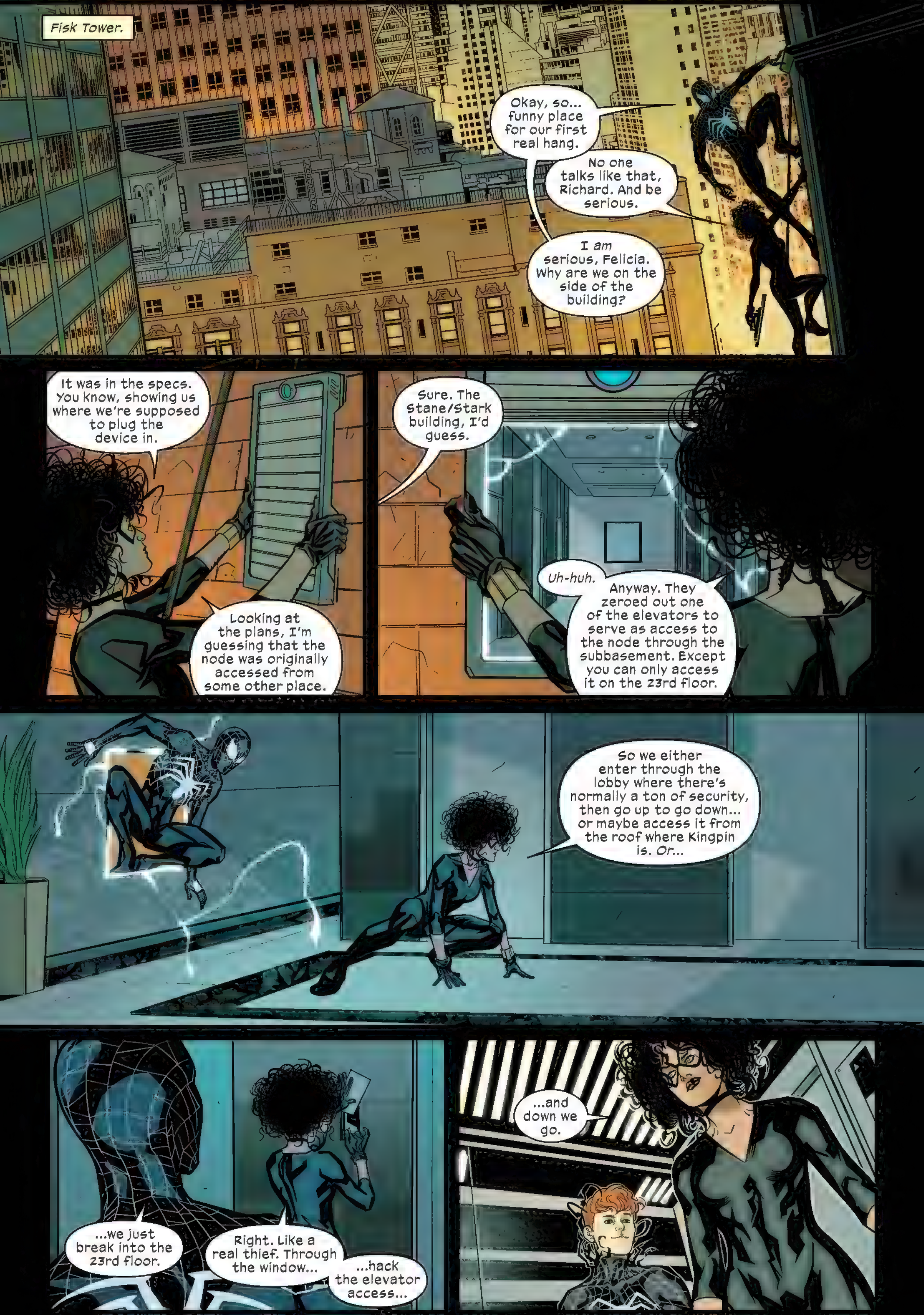
ONE HOUR LATER

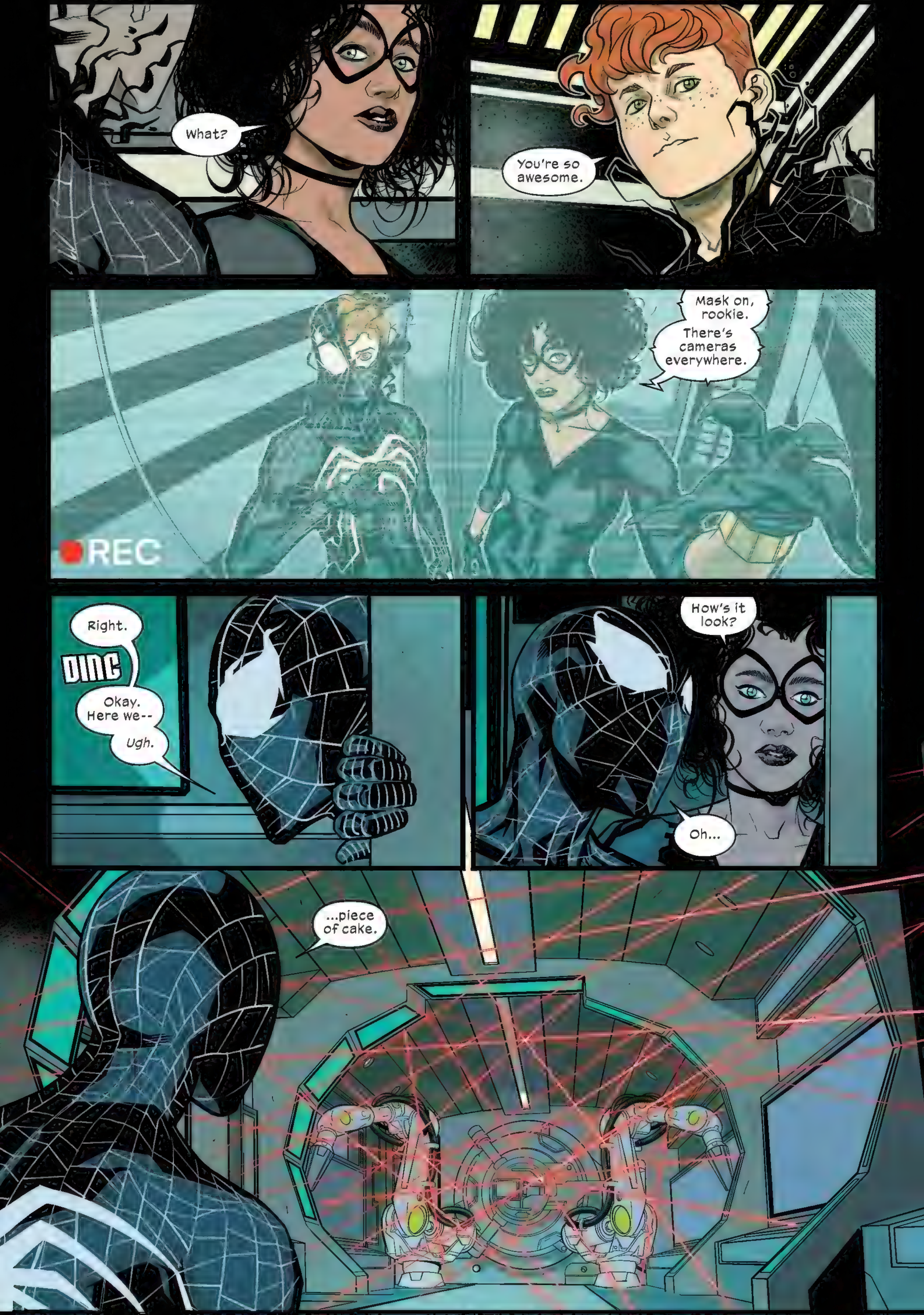

You did what???

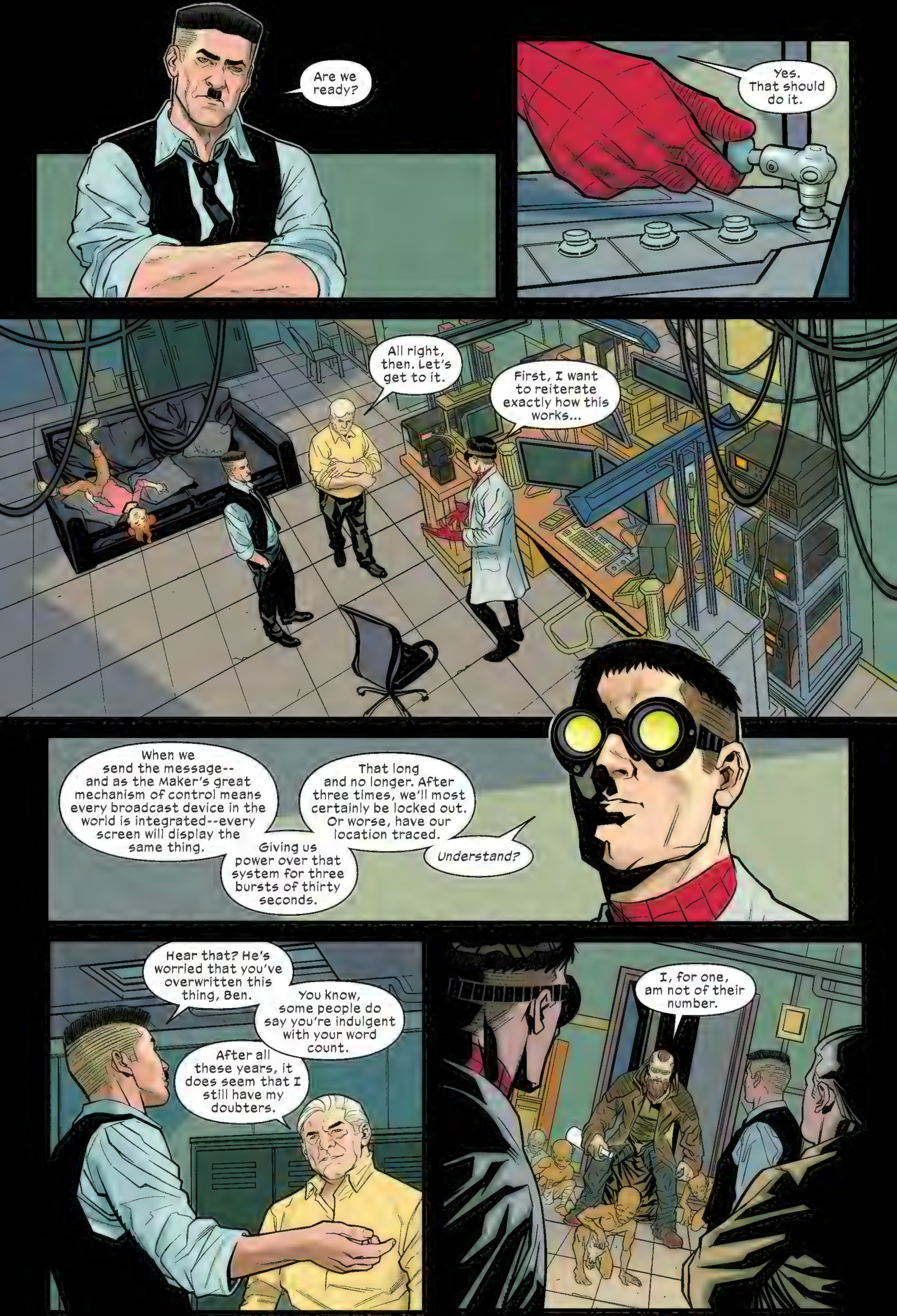

Something remarkable, frankly. I built a device to make us all safe. *Safer.*
Well, as safe as any of us could ever be.
Now where did that--?
Ah. There you are.
That's not what she's talking about, Otto.
Where's Richard? Where's our son?
Oh. ***That.*** Yes, of course.
What can I say?
The boy has a mind of his own. That's for sure.
He took the device and-- *one can only assume--* is now on his way to install it at Fisk Tower.
There may have been some implication of using the Hardy girl to assist him...as I'm sure you know, the security of that building is quite formidable and rather deadly.
And you just *let him go?* Why didn't you ***stop him?***
Some parents are overly protective of who is and is not allowed to "parent" their child.
So it wasn't really my place, was it?

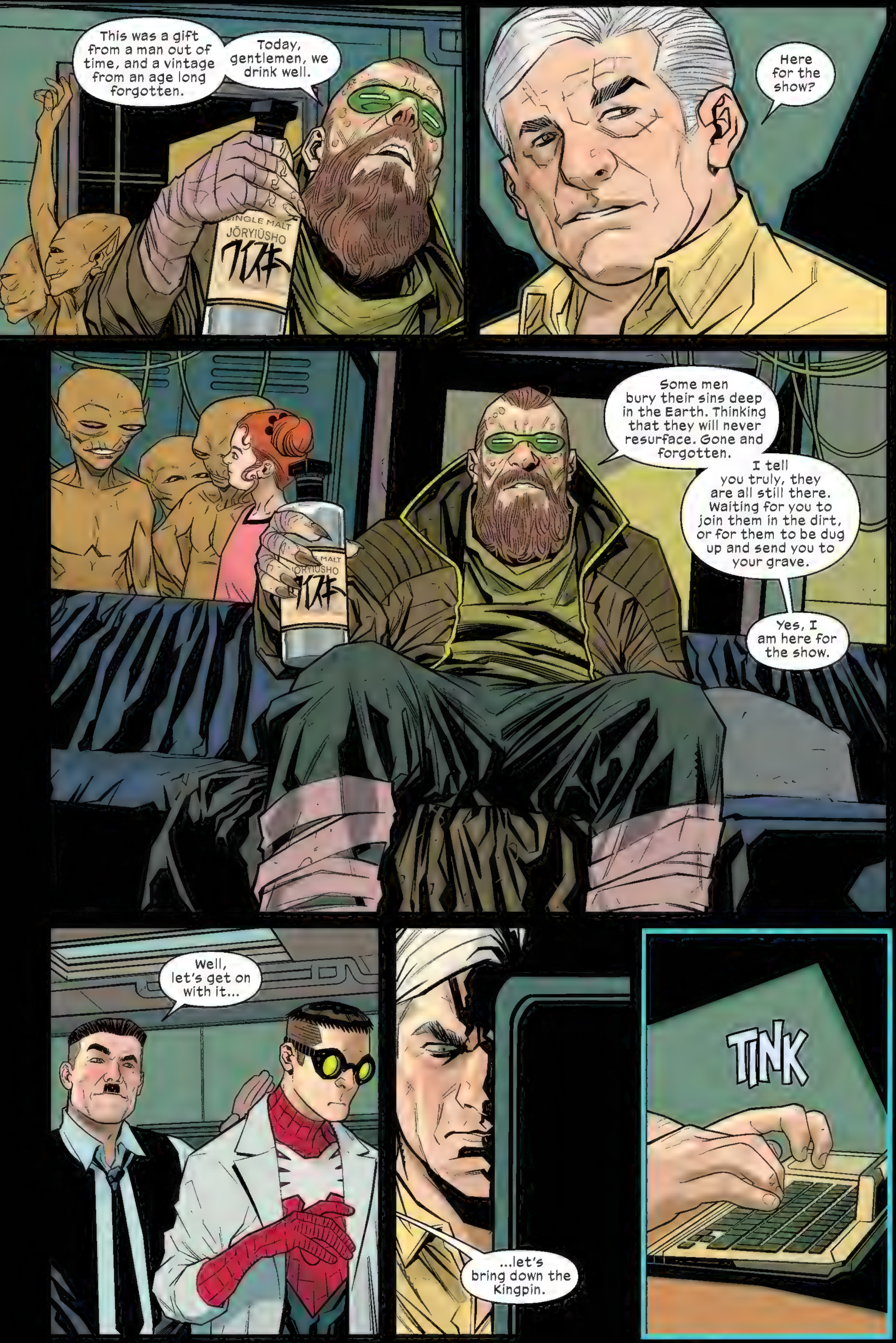

I'm gonna--
How long ago did he leave?
Hard to say, but...
...maybe an hour ago.
Get dressed. We're going after him.
Sorry. I'd love to help, but today's the big day.
I have to manage the signal for Jameson and your uncle.
Peter.
Yeah. I'm going now.
I'll bring him back.
It *is* important that the device be installed.
And you might need ***this.***
We'll talk more about this later.

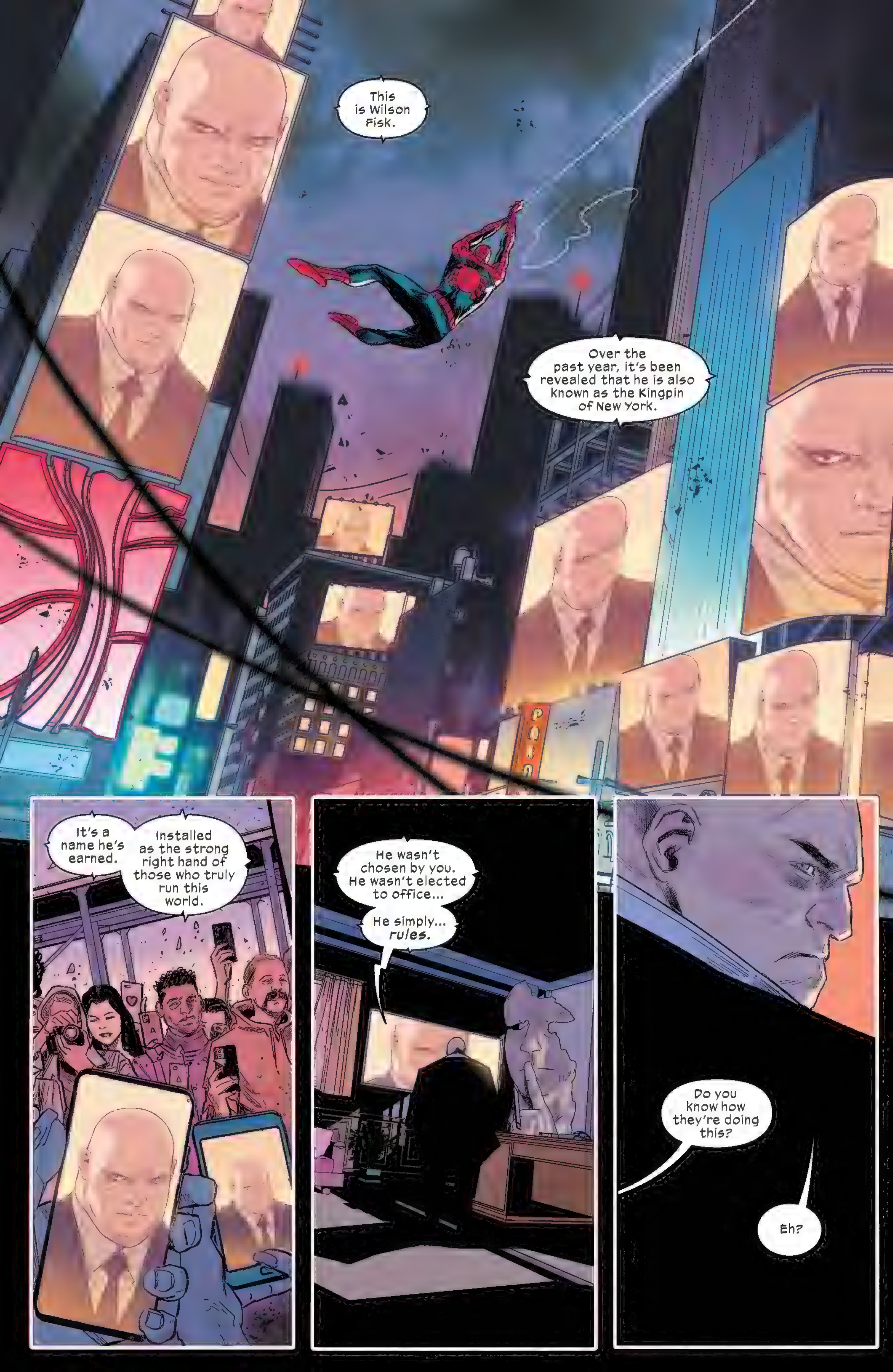

Yes. To be continued, Otto!
Hrmpt.
Was I not clear about it saving us all?
TICK
Oh well...
Eh?
...
You should be better than you are.

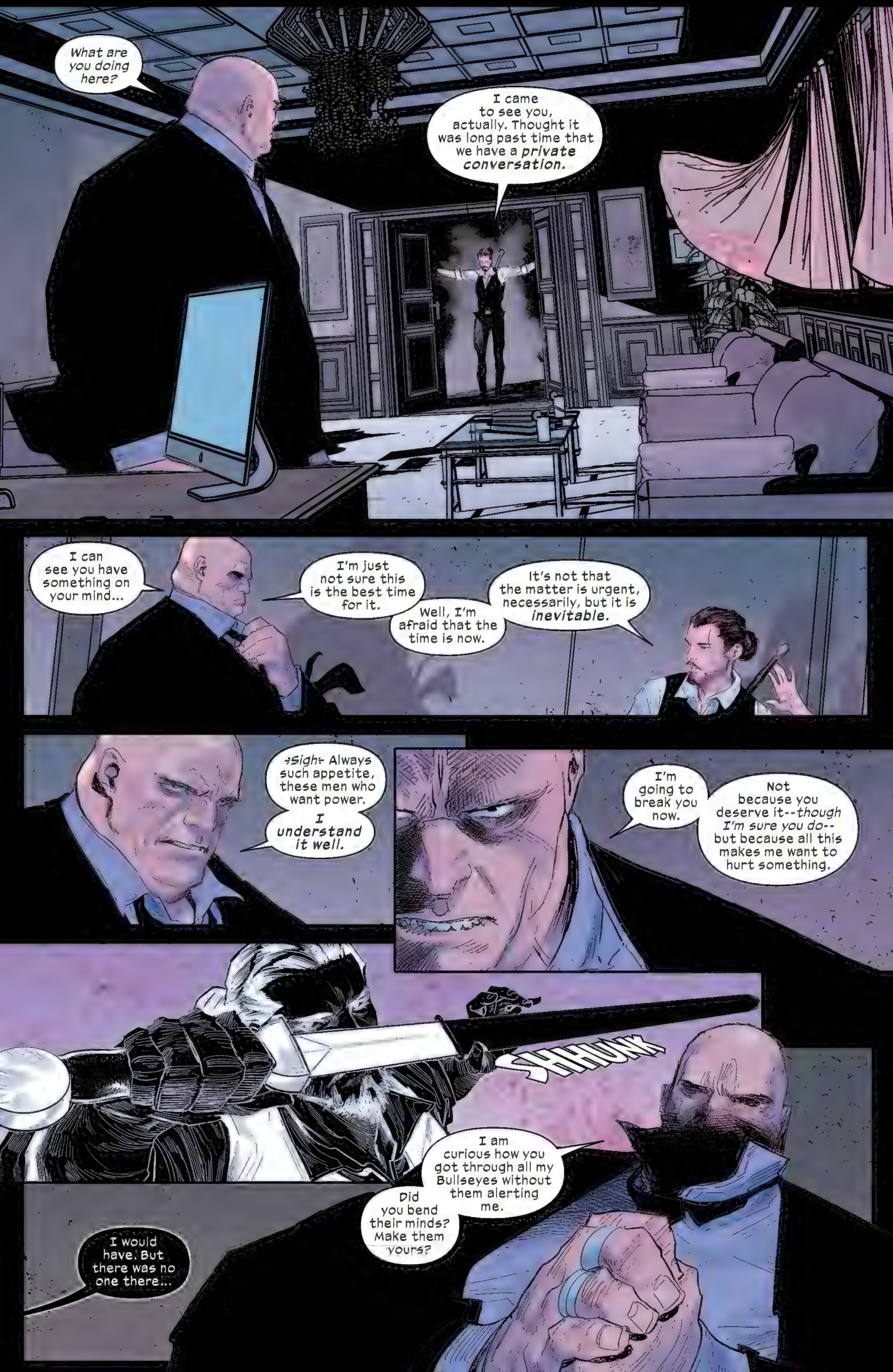

Fisk Tower.
Okay, so... funny place for our first real hang.
No one talks like that, Richard. And be serious.
I *am* serious, Felicia. Why are we on the side of the building?
It was in the specs. You know, showing us where we're supposed to plug the device in.
Looking at the plans, I'm guessing that the node was originally accessed from some other place.
Sure. The Stane/Stark building, I'd guess.
Uh-huh.
Anyway. They zeroed out one of the elevators to serve as access to the node through the subbasement. Except you can only access it on the 23rd floor.
So we either enter through the lobby where there's normally a ton of security, then go up to go down... or maybe access it from the roof where Kingpin is. *Or...*
...we just break into the 23rd floor.
Right. Like a real thief. Through the window...
...hack the elevator access...
...and down we go.

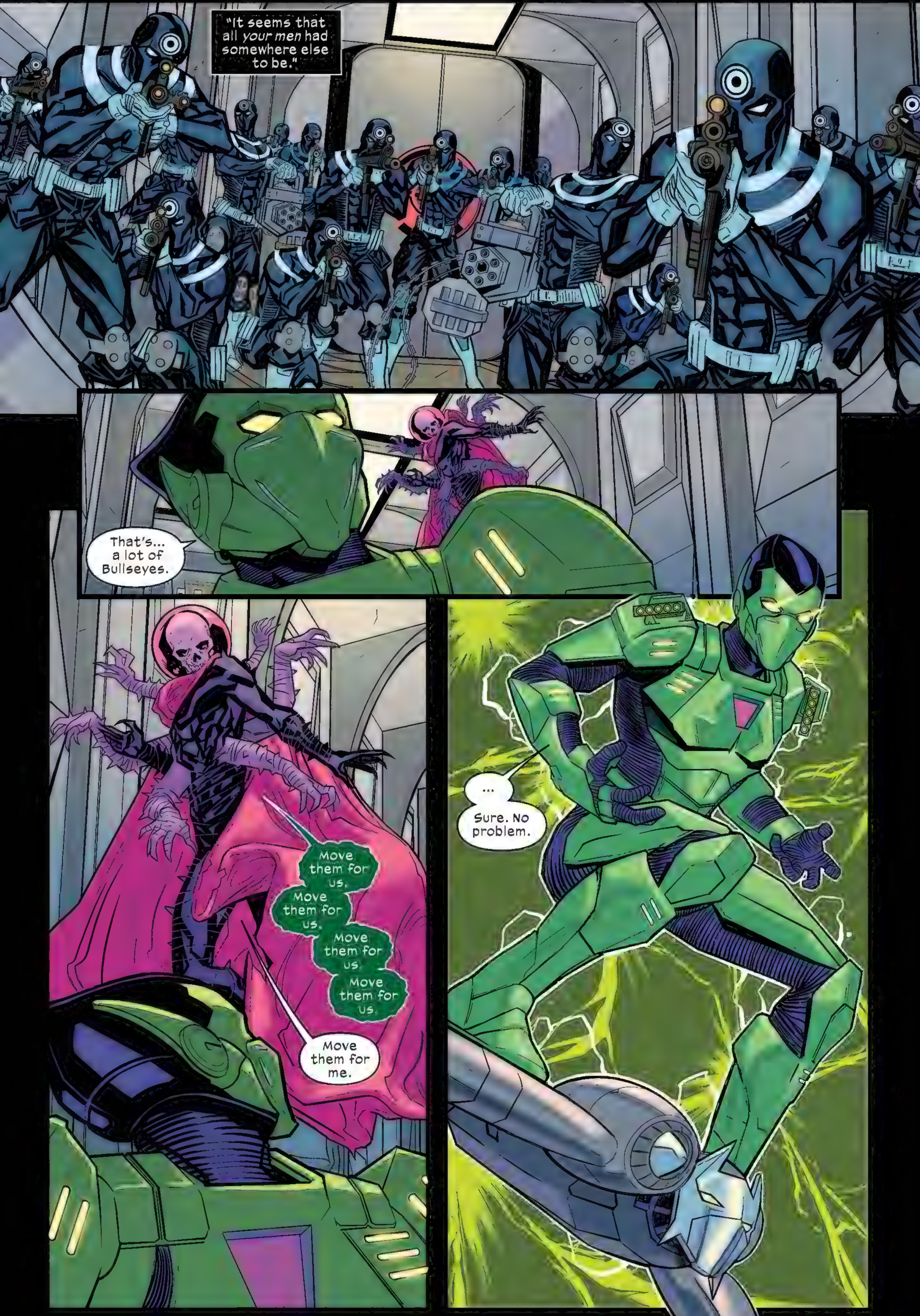

What?
You're so awesome.
Mask on, rookie.
There's cameras everywhere.
REC
Right.
DING
Okay. Here we--
Ugh.
How's it look?
Oh...
...piece of cake.

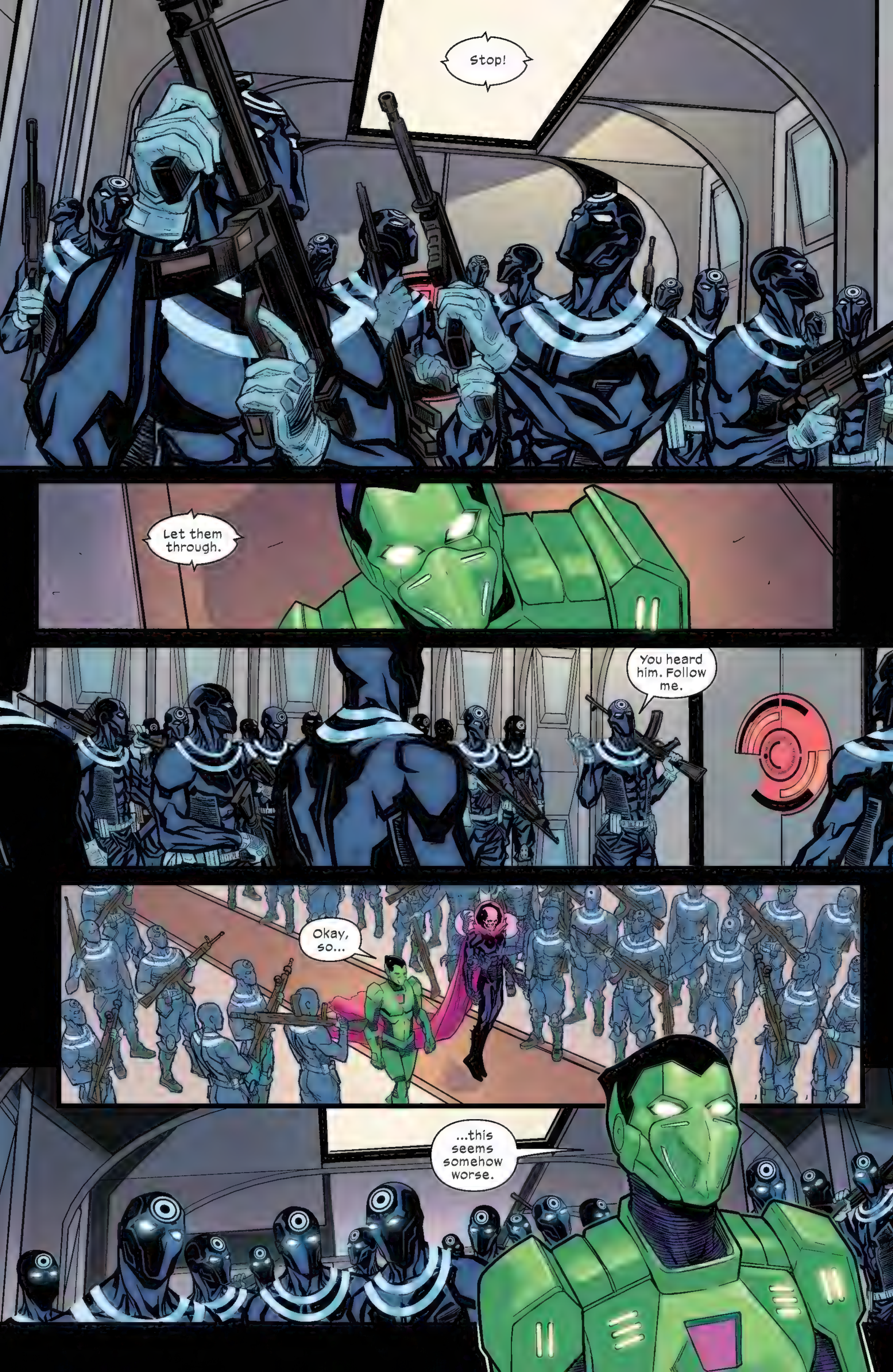

Are we ready?
Yes. That should do it.
All right, then. Let's get to it.
First, I want to reiterate exactly how this works...
When we send the message-- and as the Maker's great mechanism of control means every broadcast device in the world is integrated--every screen will display the same thing.
Giving us power over that system for three bursts of thirty seconds.
That long and no longer. After three times, we'll most certainly be locked out. Or worse, have our location traced.
Understand?
Hear that? He's worried that you've overwritten this thing, Ben.
You know, some people do say you're indulgent with your word count.
After all these years, it does seem that I still have my doubters.
I, for one, am not of their number.

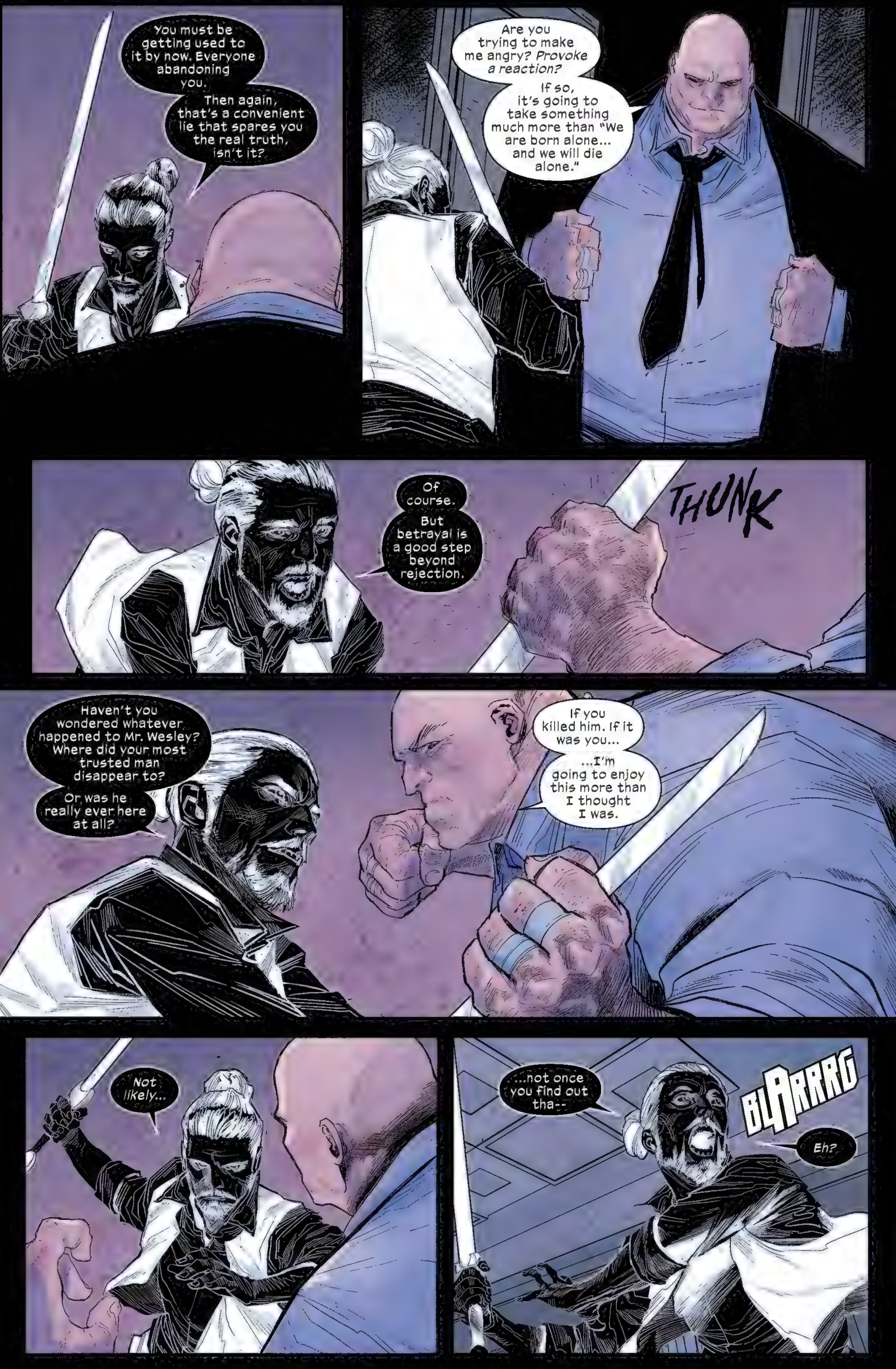

This was a gift from a man out of time, and a vintage from an age long forgotten.
Today, gentlemen, we drink well.
SINGLE MALT
JŌRYIŪSHO
ワイスキ
Here for the show?
Some men bury their sins deep in the Earth. Thinking that they will never resurface. Gone and forgotten.
I tell you truly, they are all still there. Waiting for you to join them in the dirt, or for them to be dug up and send you to your grave.
Yes, I am here for the show.
Well, let's get on with it...
...let's bring down the Kingpin.
TINK

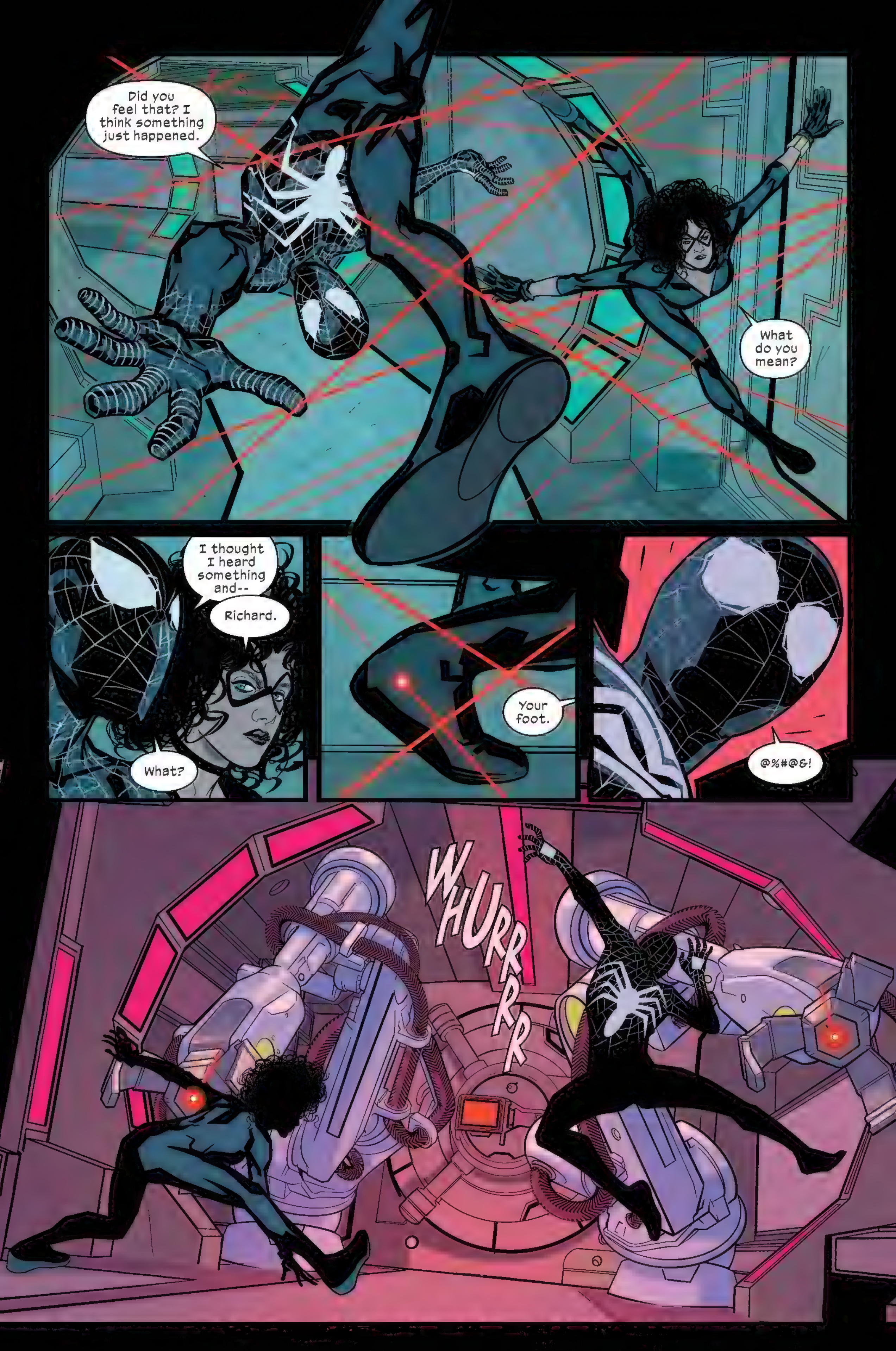

This is Wilson Fisk.
Over the past year, it's been revealed that he is also known as the Kingpin of New York.
It's a name he's earned.
Installed as the strong right hand of those who truly run this world.
He wasn't chosen by you. He wasn't elected to office...
He simply... *rules.*
Do you know how they're doing this?
Eh?

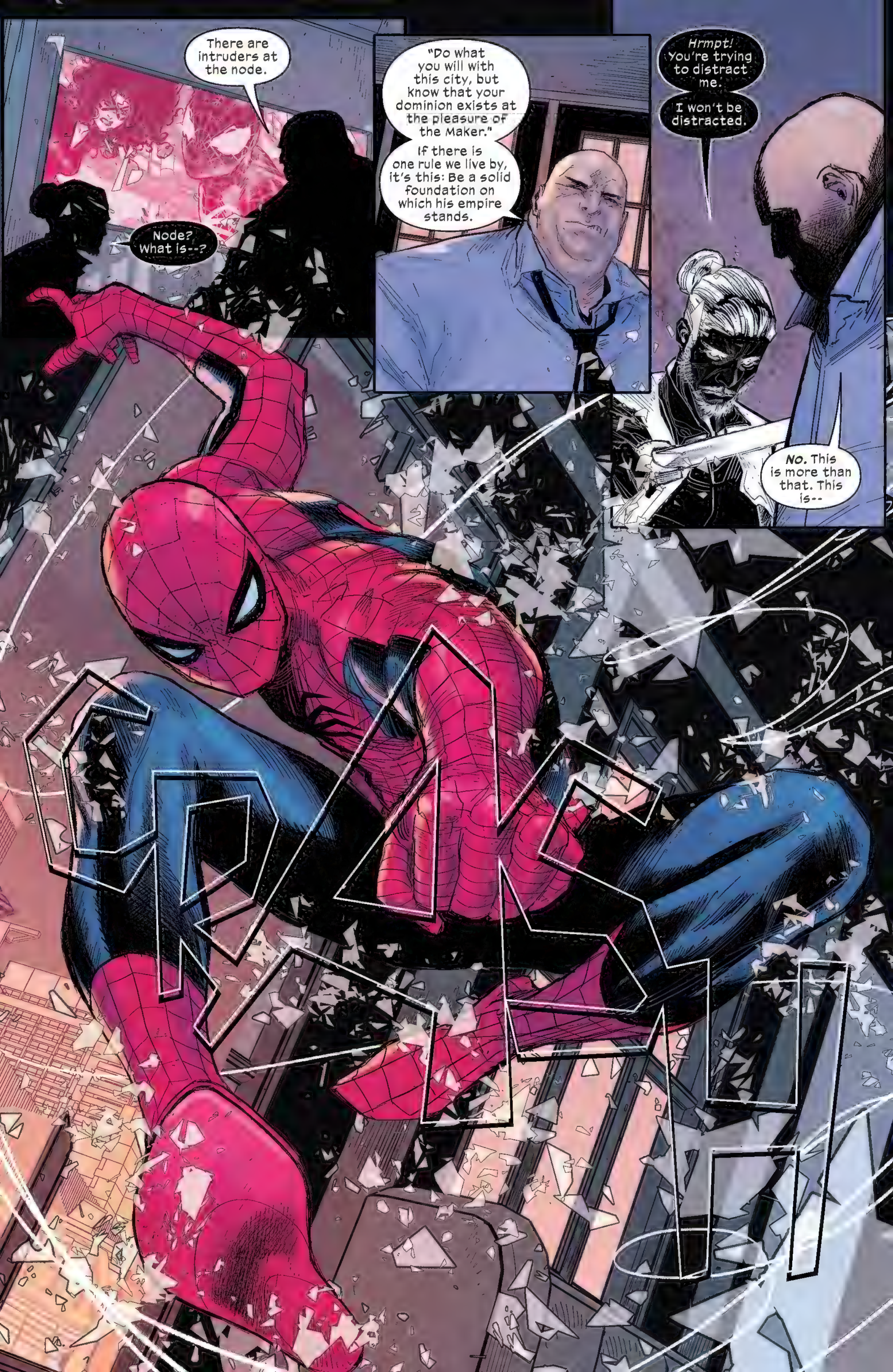

What are you doing here?
I came to see you, actually. Thought it was long past time that we have a *private conversation.*
I can see you have something on your mind...
I'm just not sure this is the best time for it.
Well, I'm afraid that the time is now.
It's not that the matter is urgent, necessarily, but it is *inevitable.*
-*Sigh*- Always such appetite, these men who want power.
I understand it well.
I'm going to break you now.
Not because you deserve it--*though I'm sure you do*--but because all this makes me want to hurt something.
SHHUNK
I am curious how you got through all my Bullseyes without them alerting me.
Did you bend their minds? Make them yours?
I would have. But there was no one there...

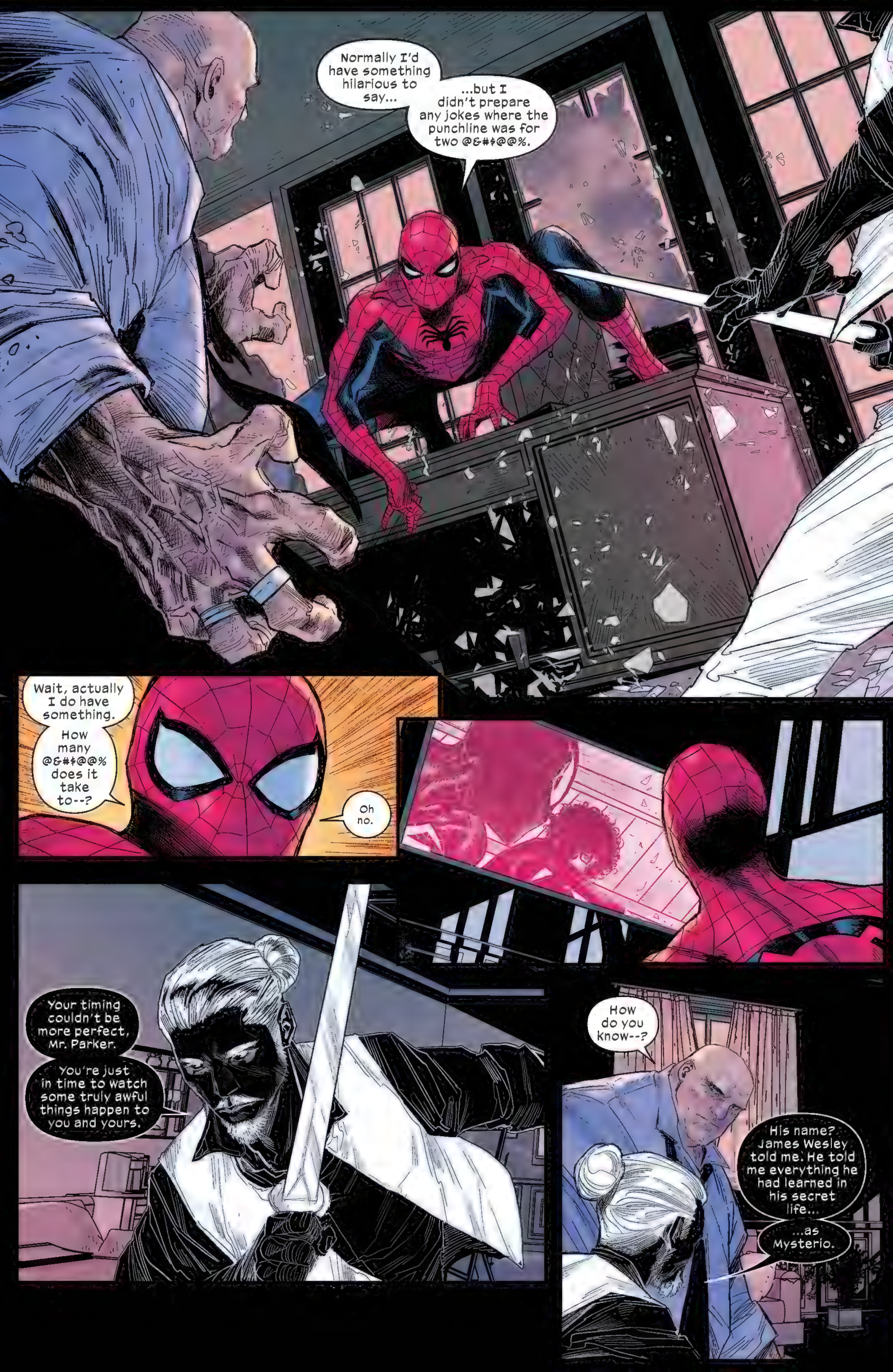

"It seems that all *your men* had somewhere else to be."
That's... a lot of Bullseyes.
Move them for us.
Move them for us.
Move them for us.
Move them for us.
Move them for me.
...
Sure. No problem.

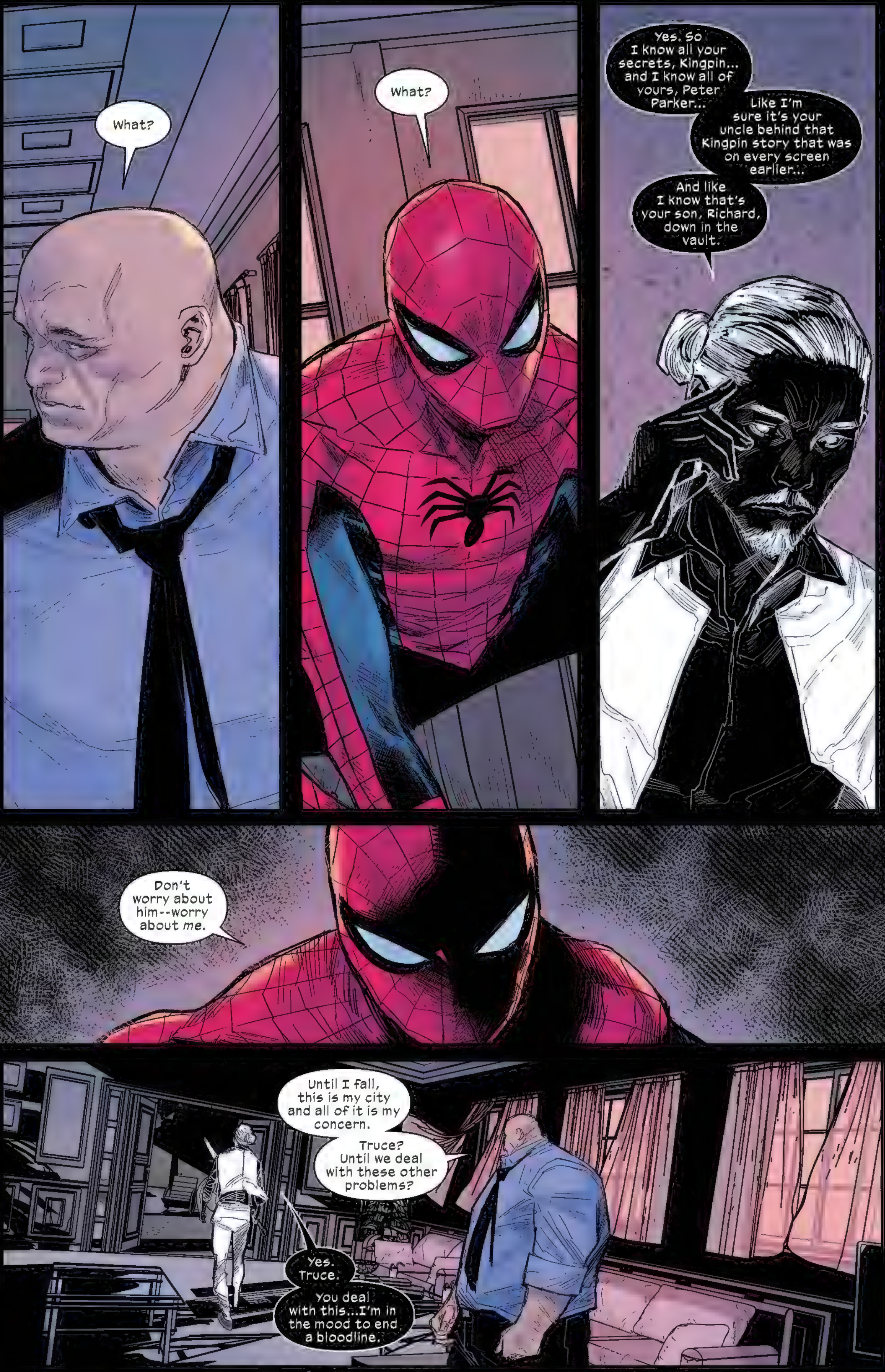

Stop!
Let them through.
You heard him. Follow me.
Okay, so...
...this seems somehow worse.

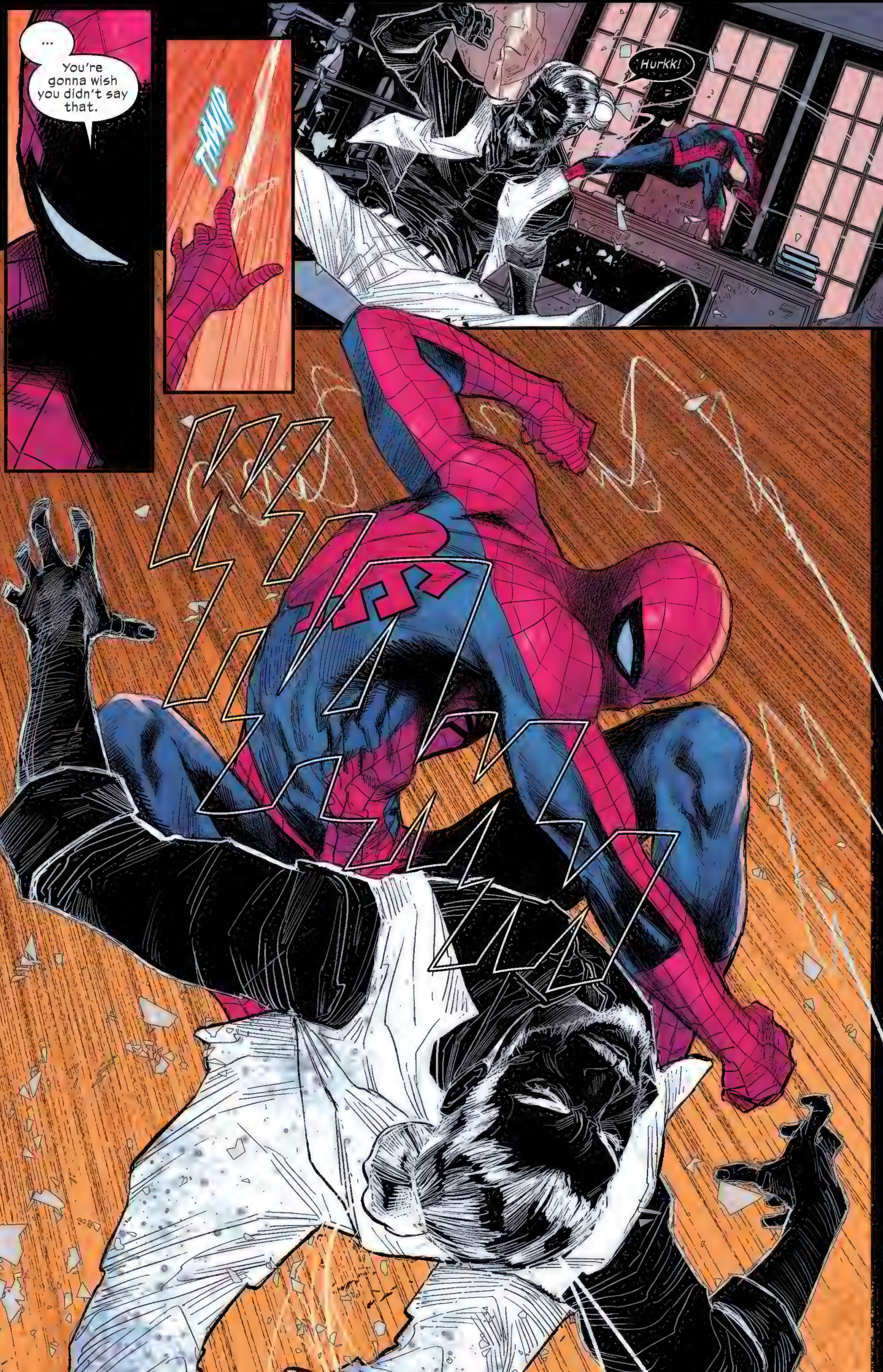

You must be getting used to it by now. Everyone abandoning you.
Then again, that's a convenient lie that spares you the real truth, isn't it?
Are you trying to make me angry? *Provoke a reaction?*
If so, it's going to take something much more than "We are born alone... and we will die alone."
Of course.
But betrayal is a good step beyond rejection.
THUNK
Haven't you wondered whatever happened to Mr. Wesley? Where did your most trusted man disappear to?
Or was he really ever here at all?
If you killed him. If it was you...
...I'm going to enjoy this more than I thought I was.
Not likely...
...not once you find out tha--
BLARRRG
Eh?

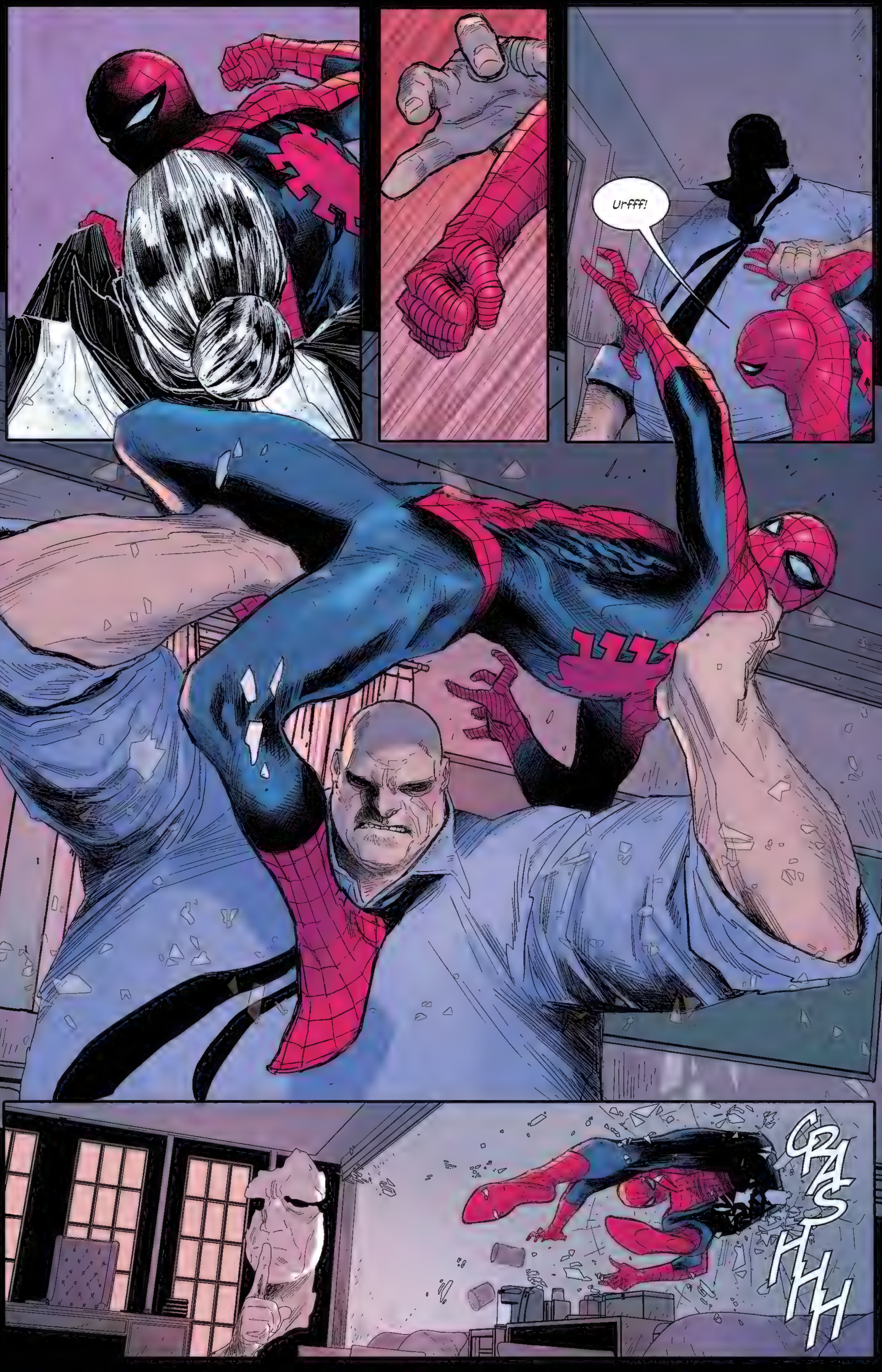

Did you feel that? I think something just happened.
What do you mean?
I thought I heard something and--
Richard.
What?
Your foot.
@%#@&!
WHURRRR

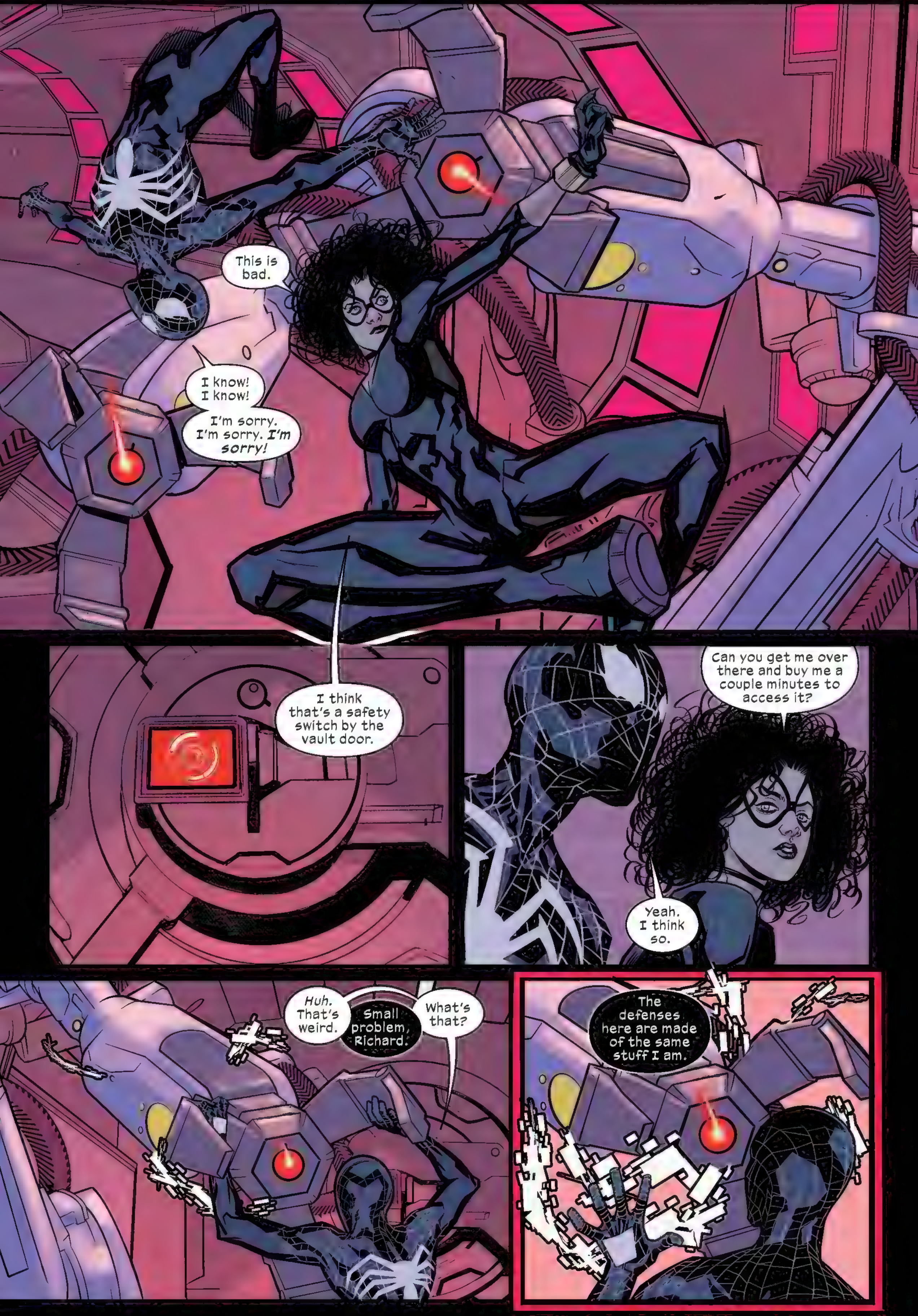

There are intruders at the node.
Node? What is--?
"Do what you will with this city, but know that your dominion exists at the pleasure of the Maker."
If there is one rule we live by, it's this: Be a solid foundation on which his empire stands.
Hrmpt! You're trying to distract me.
I won't be distracted.
No. This is more than that. This is--
CRASH!

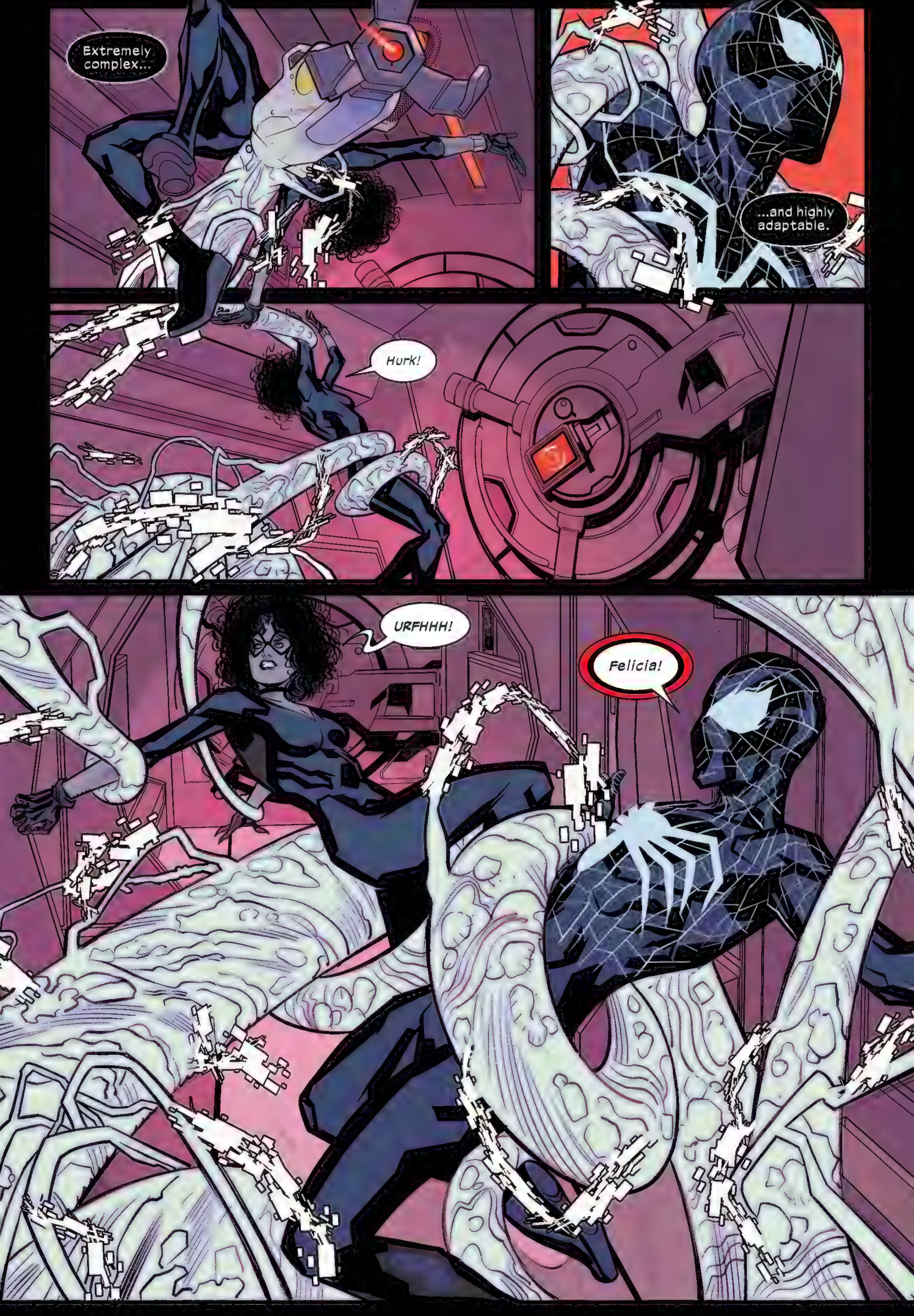

Normally I'd have something hilarious to say...
...but I didn't prepare any jokes where the punchline was for two @&#$@@%.
Wait, actually I do have something.
How many @&#$@@% does it take to--?
Oh no.
Your timing couldn't be more perfect, Mr. Parker.
You're just in time to watch some truly awful things happen to you and yours.
How do you know--?
His name? James Wesley told me. He told me everything he had learned in his secret life...
...as Mysterio.

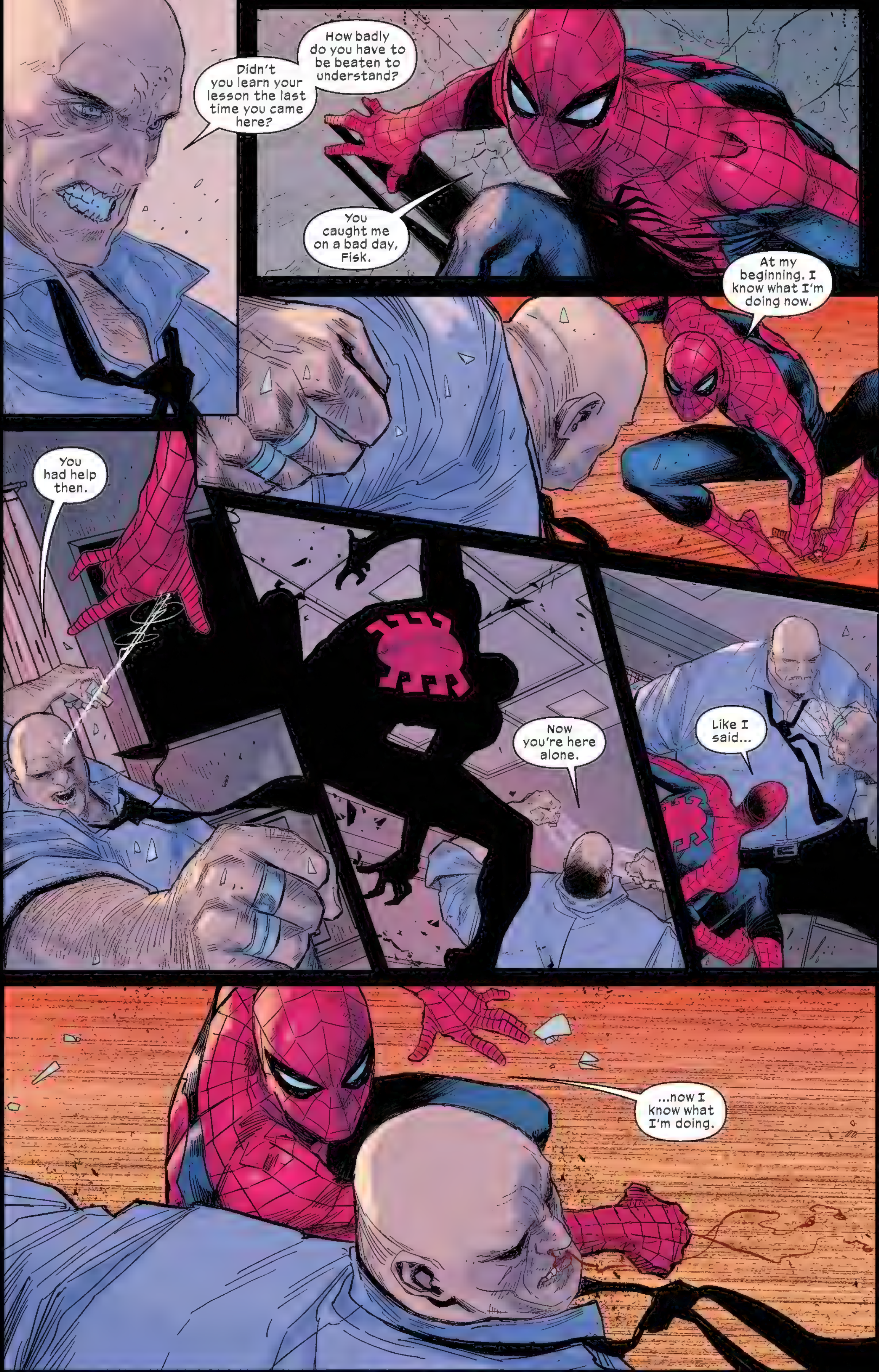

What?
What?
Yes. So I know all your secrets, Kingpin... and I know all of yours, Peter Parker...
Like I'm sure it's your uncle behind that Kingpin story that was on every screen earlier...
And like I know that's your son, Richard, down in the vault.
Don't worry about him--worry about *me*.
Until I fall, this is my city and all of it is my concern.
Truce? Until we deal with these other problems?
Yes. Truce.
You deal with this...I'm in the mood to end a bloodline.

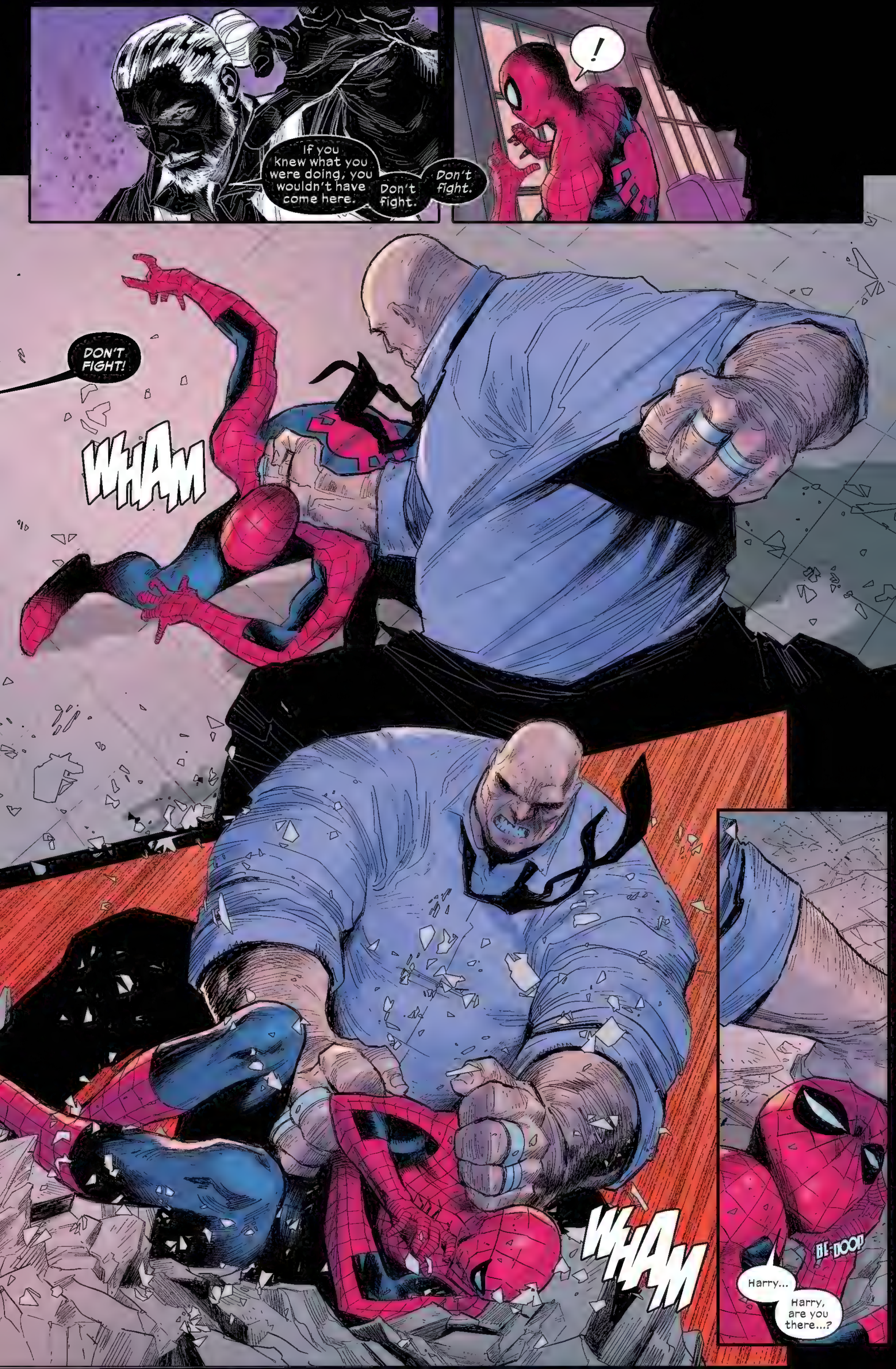

...
You're gonna wish you didn't say that.
THWIP
Hurkk!

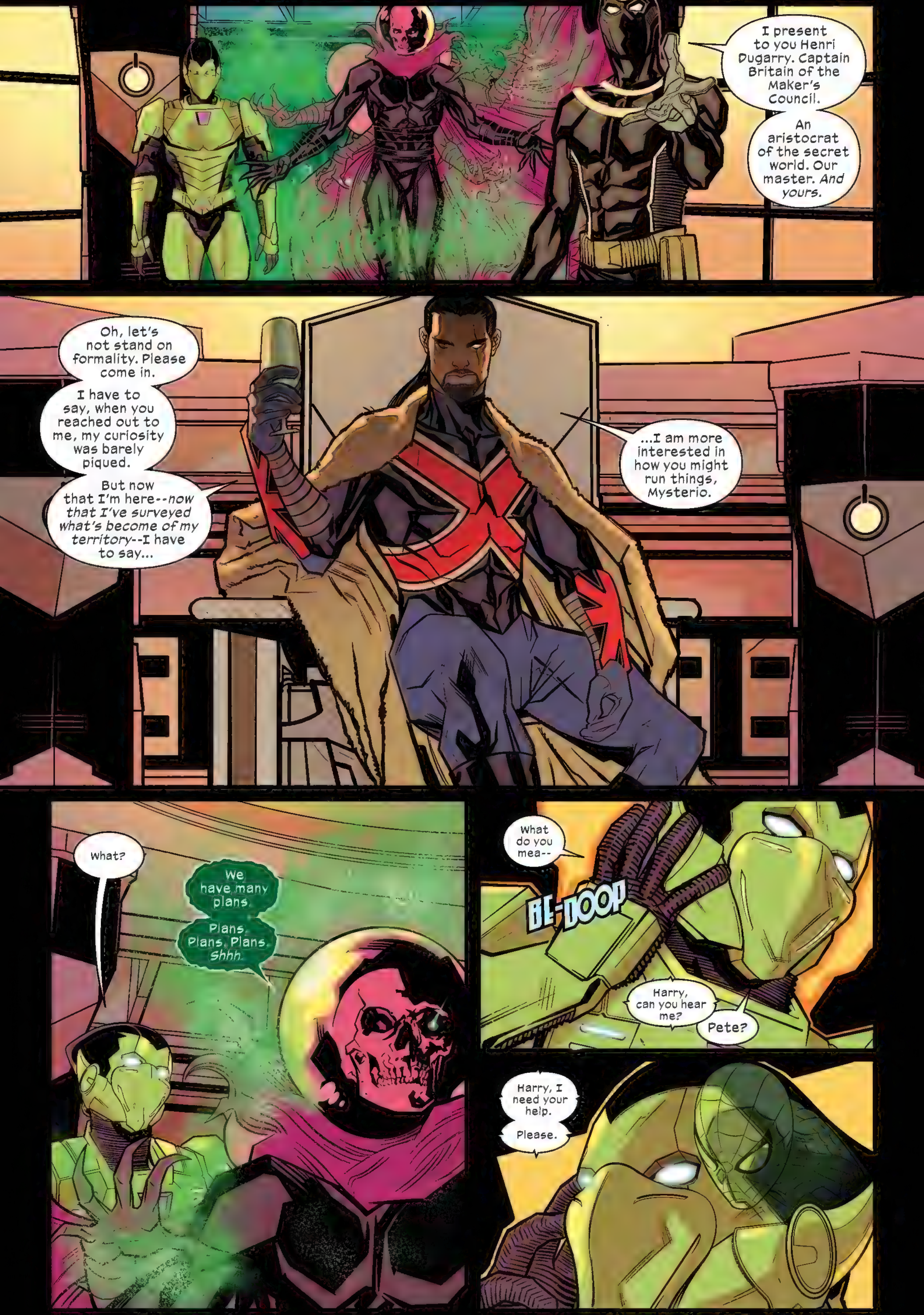

Urfff!
CRASHHH

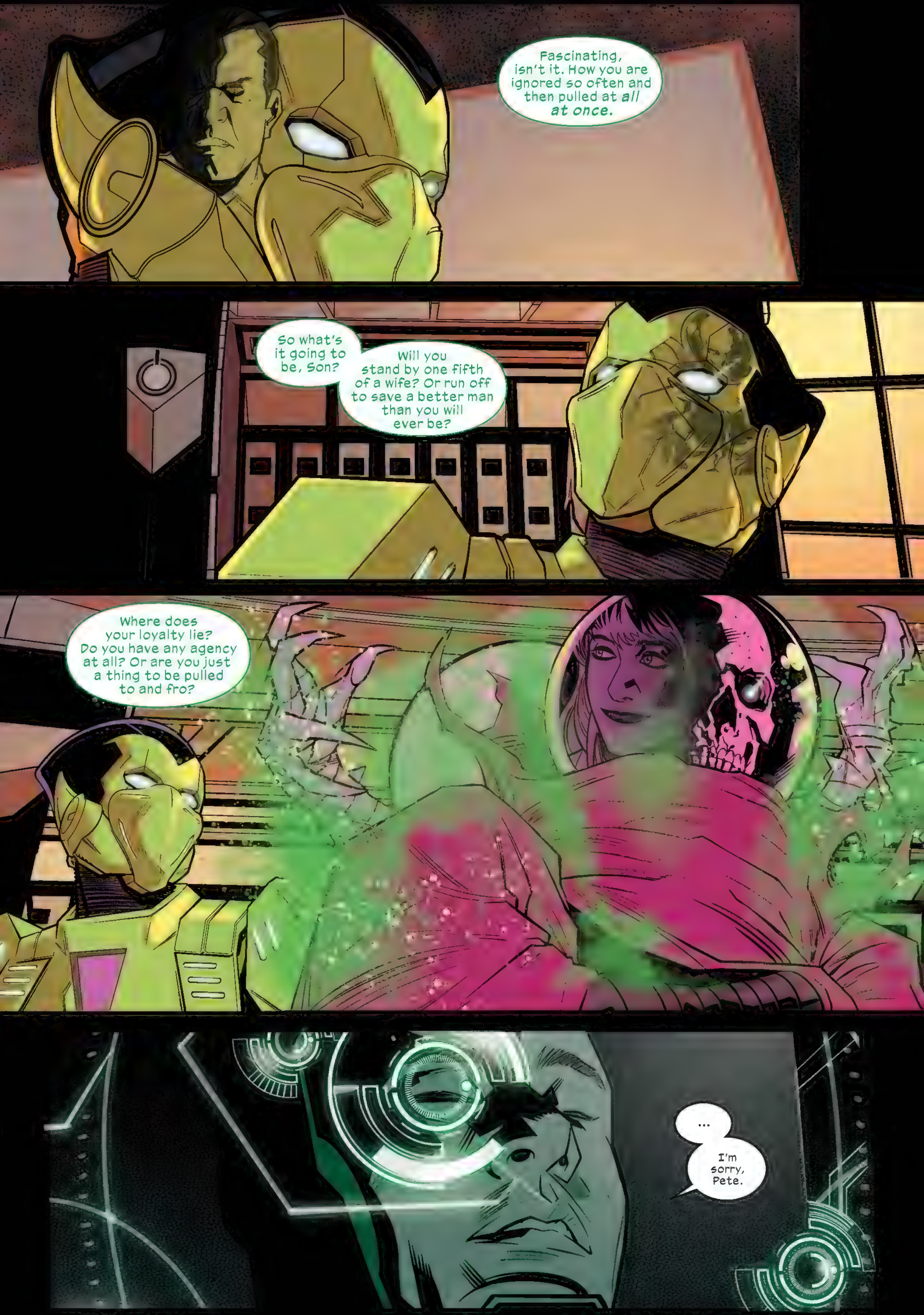

This is bad.
I know! I know!
I'm sorry. I'm sorry. *I'm sorry!*
I think that's a safety switch by the vault door.
Can you get me over there and buy me a couple minutes to access it?
Yeah. I think so.
Huh. That's weird.
Small problem, Richard.
What's that?
The defenses here are made of the same stuff I am.

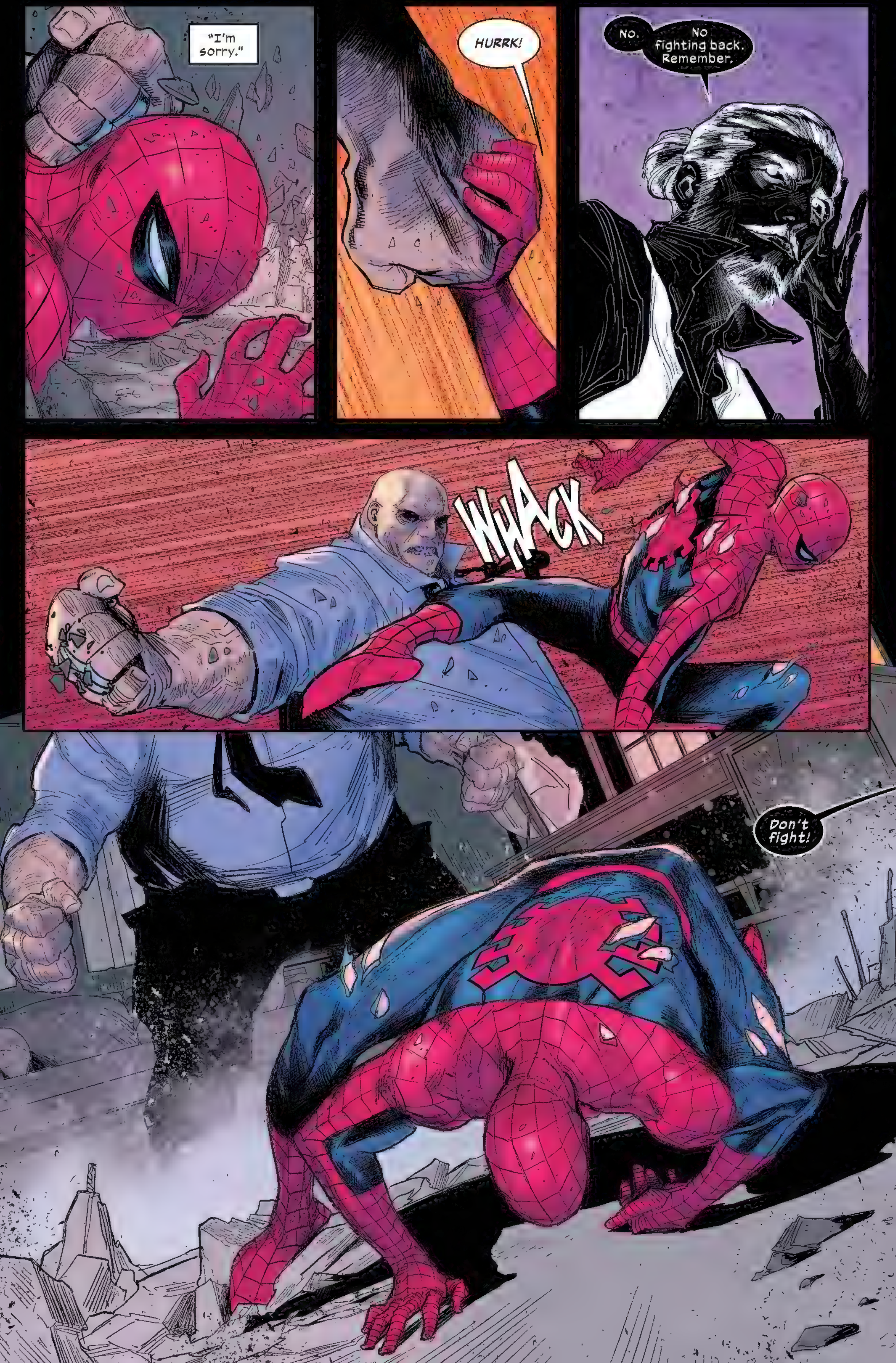

Extremely complex...
...and highly adaptable.
Hurk!
URFHHH!
Felicia!

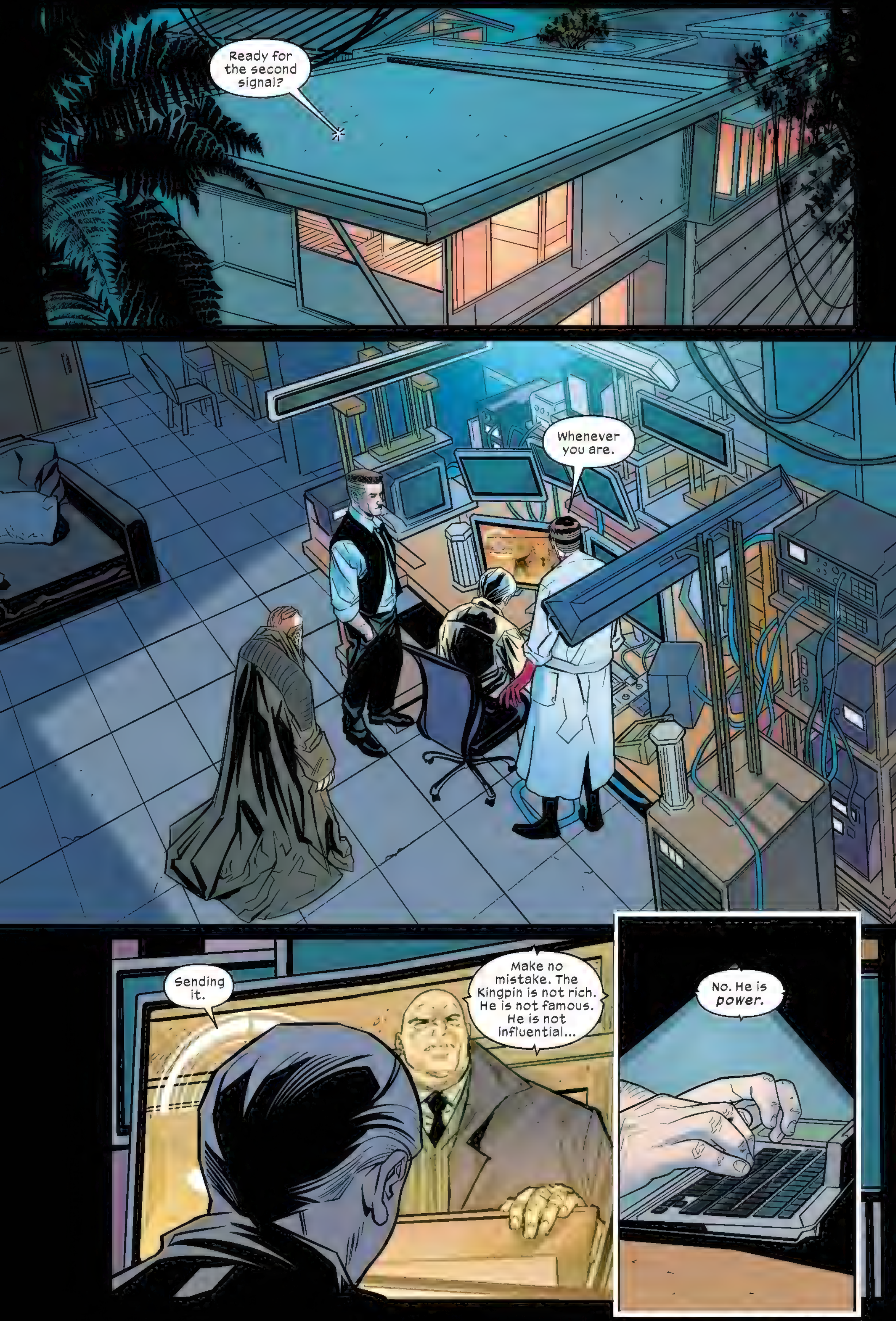

Didn't you learn your lesson the last time you came here?
How badly do you have to be beaten to understand?
You caught me on a bad day, Fisk.
At my beginning. I know what I'm doing now.
You had help then.
Now you're here alone.
Like I said...
...now I know what I'm doing.

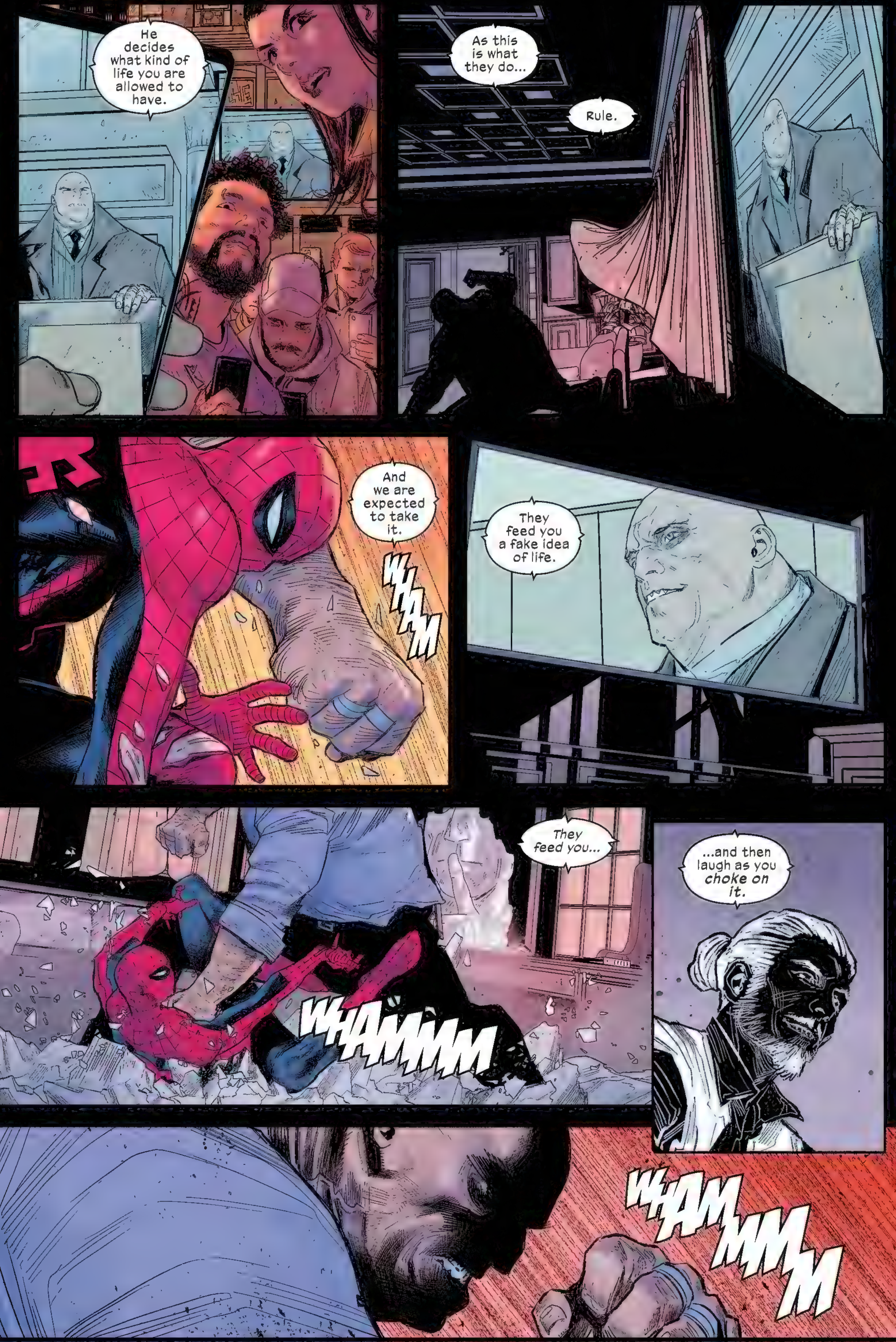

If you knew what you were doing, you wouldn't have come here.
Don't fight.
Don't fight.
!
DON'T FIGHT!
WHAM
WHAM
BI-DOOP
Harry...
Harry, are you there...?

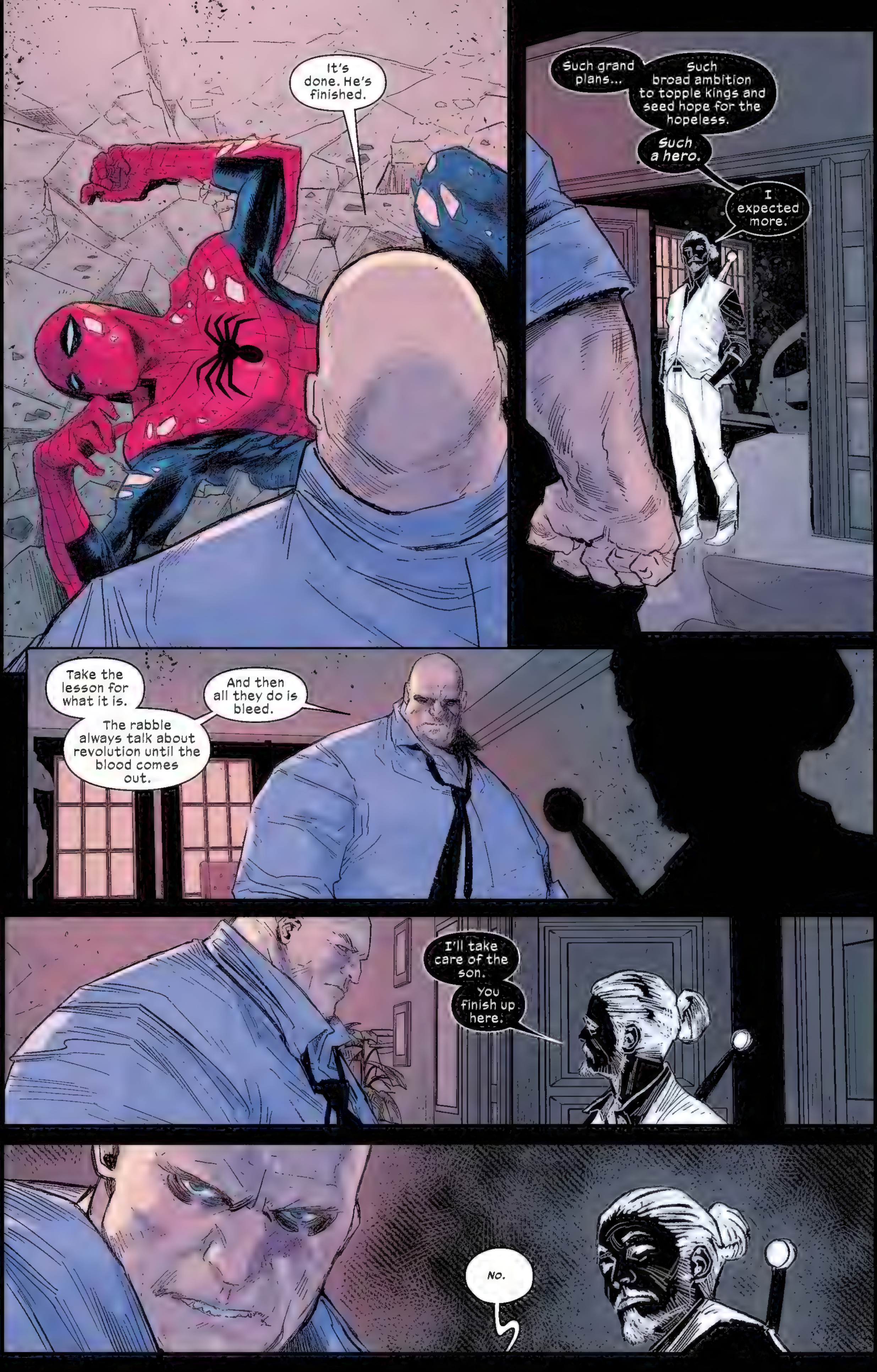

I present to you Henri Dugarry. Captain Britain of the Maker's Council.
An aristocrat of the secret world. Our master. *And* yours.
Oh, let's not stand on formality. Please come in.
I have to say, when you reached out to me, my curiosity was barely piqued.
But now that I'm here--*now that I've surveyed what's become of my territory*--I have to say...
...I am more interested in how you might run things, Mysterio.
What?
We have many plans.
Plans. Plans. Plans. *Shhh.*
What do you mea--
BE-DOOP
Harry, can you hear me?
Pete?
Harry, I need your help.
Please.

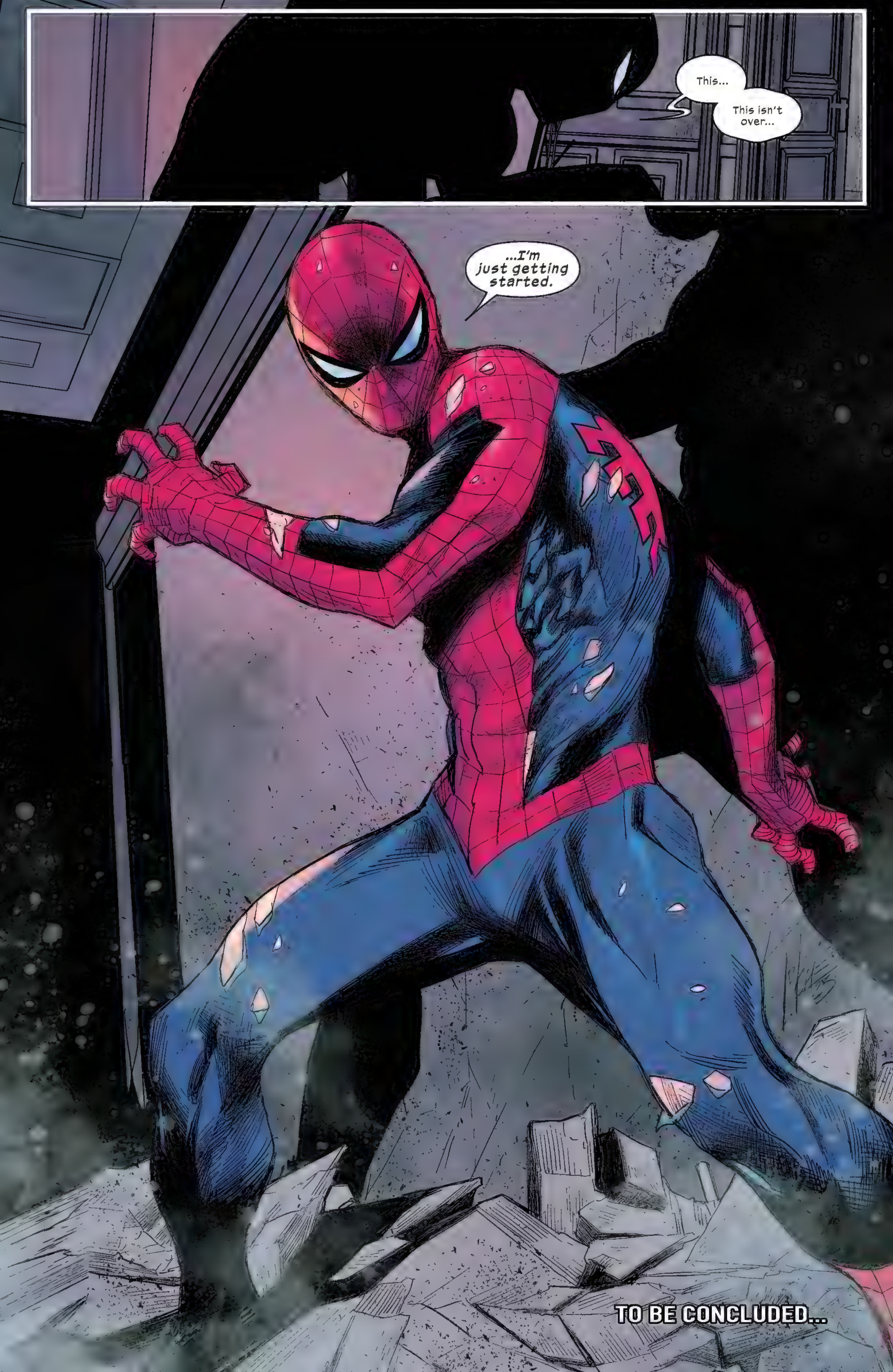

Fascinating, isn't it. How you are ignored so often and then pulled at *all at once.*
So what's it going to be, Son?
Will you stand by one fifth of a wife? Or run off to save a better man than you will ever be?
Where does your loyalty lie? Do you have any agency at all? Or are you just a thing to be pulled to and fro?
...
I'm sorry, Pete.


"I'm sorry."
HURRK!
No.
No fighting back. Remember.
WHACK
Don't fight!


Ready for the second signal?
Whenever you are.
Sending it.
Make no mistake. The Kingpin is not rich. He is not famous. He is not influential...
No. He is *power.*


He decides what kind of life you are allowed to have.
As this is what they do...
Rule.
And we are expected to take it.
WHAM
They feed you a fake idea of life.
They feed you...
WHAMMM
...and then laugh as you *choke on it.*
WHAMMMM


It's done. He's finished.
Such grand plans...
Such broad ambition to topple kings and seed hope for the hopeless.
Such a hero.
I expected more.
Take the lesson for what it is.
The rabble always talk about revolution until the blood comes out.
And then all they do is bleed.
I'll take care of the son.
You finish up here.
No.


This...
This isn't over...
...I'm just getting started.
TO BE CONCLUDED...

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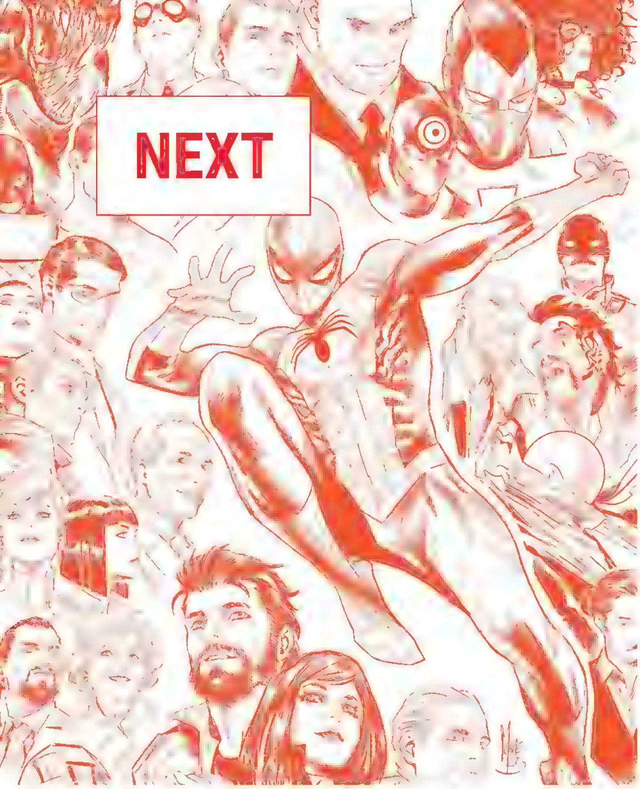


MARVEL
24
ULTIMATE
SPIDER-MAN
HICKMAN CHECCHETTO
MESSINA WILSON

ON SALE IN **JANUARY**

ON SALE THIS MONTH

MARVEL
23
ULTIMATE
BLACK PANTHER

ULTIMATE BLACK PANTHER #23

BY **BRYAN HILL**
& **CARLOS NIETO**

MARVEL
22
ULTIMATE
X-MEN

ULTIMATE X-MEN #22

BY **PEACH MOMOKO**

MARVEL
19
THE
ULTIMATES

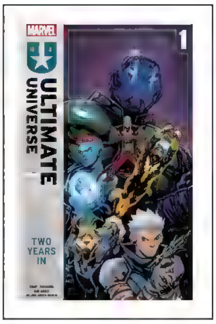
ULTIMATES #19

BY **DENIZ CAMP**
& **JUAN FRIGERI**

MARVEL
12
ULTIMATE
WOLVERINE

ULTIMATE WOLVERINE #12

BY **CHRIS CONDON** &
ALESSANDRO CAPPUCCIO


MARVEL
1
ULTIMATE
UNIVERSE
TWO
YEARS
IN

ULTIMATE UNIVERSE: TWO YEARS IN #1

BY **DENIZ CAMP**,
ALEX PAKNADEL & **MORE**

MARVEL
1
ULTIMATE
ENDGAME

ULTIMATE ENDGAME #1

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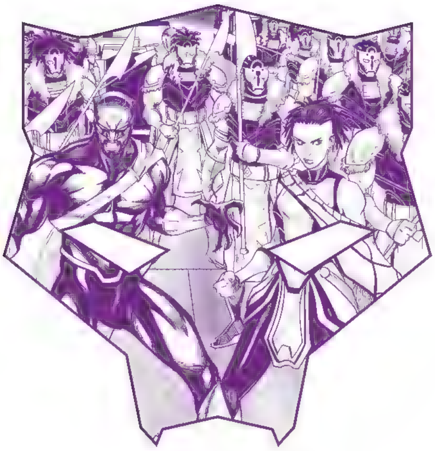


22

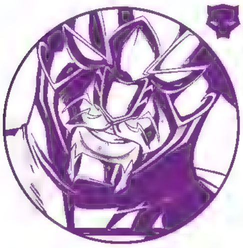
A diabolical genius known as **THE MAKER** created his ideal Earth by systematically preventing anyone from ever becoming a super hero. To rule his perfected Earth, he placed super villains in charge of different regions, and together, **THE MAKER'S COUNCIL** quietly orchestrated the history of the world.

KING T'CHALLA of the highly advanced, isolated **WAKANDA** thought he'd triumphed over the evils of the Maker's Council. But **RA** and **KHONSHU**, the overseers of the African continent, had unlocked a larger, more dangerous power by activating **VIBRANIUM**, the element upon which Wakanda was built.

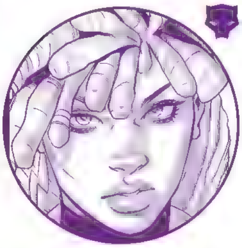
Within vibranium are volatile, angry spirits that call themselves **PROGENITORS**. **KILLMONGER** and **BLACK PANTHER** learned that the Progenitors seek to claim the Earth for themselves, and the **VODU-KHAN**, a mysterious mystical sect within Wakanda, have allied with them. Worse still, the head Progenitor, **Z'NON**, kidnapped **STORM**...

ULTIMATE BLACK PANTHER

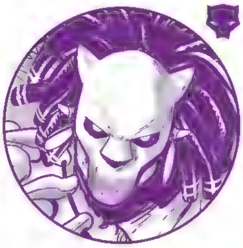
CAST:



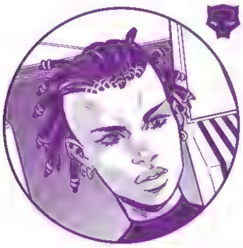
BLACK PANTHER
KING T'CHALLA



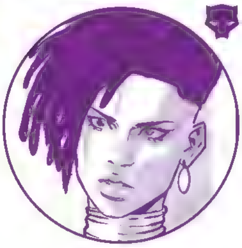
STORM
ORORO MUNROE



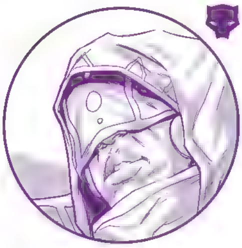
KILLMONGER
ERIK KILLMONGER



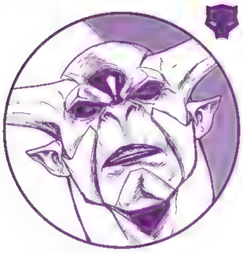
SHURI
WOMAN-AT-ARMS,
T'CHALLA'S SISTER



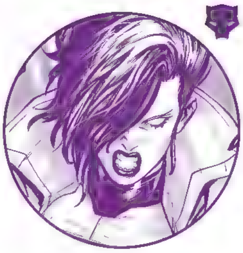
QUEEN OKOYE
HIGH MENTOR OF
THE DORA MILAJE



MATRON IMALA
SACRED MOTHER OF
THE VODU-KHAN

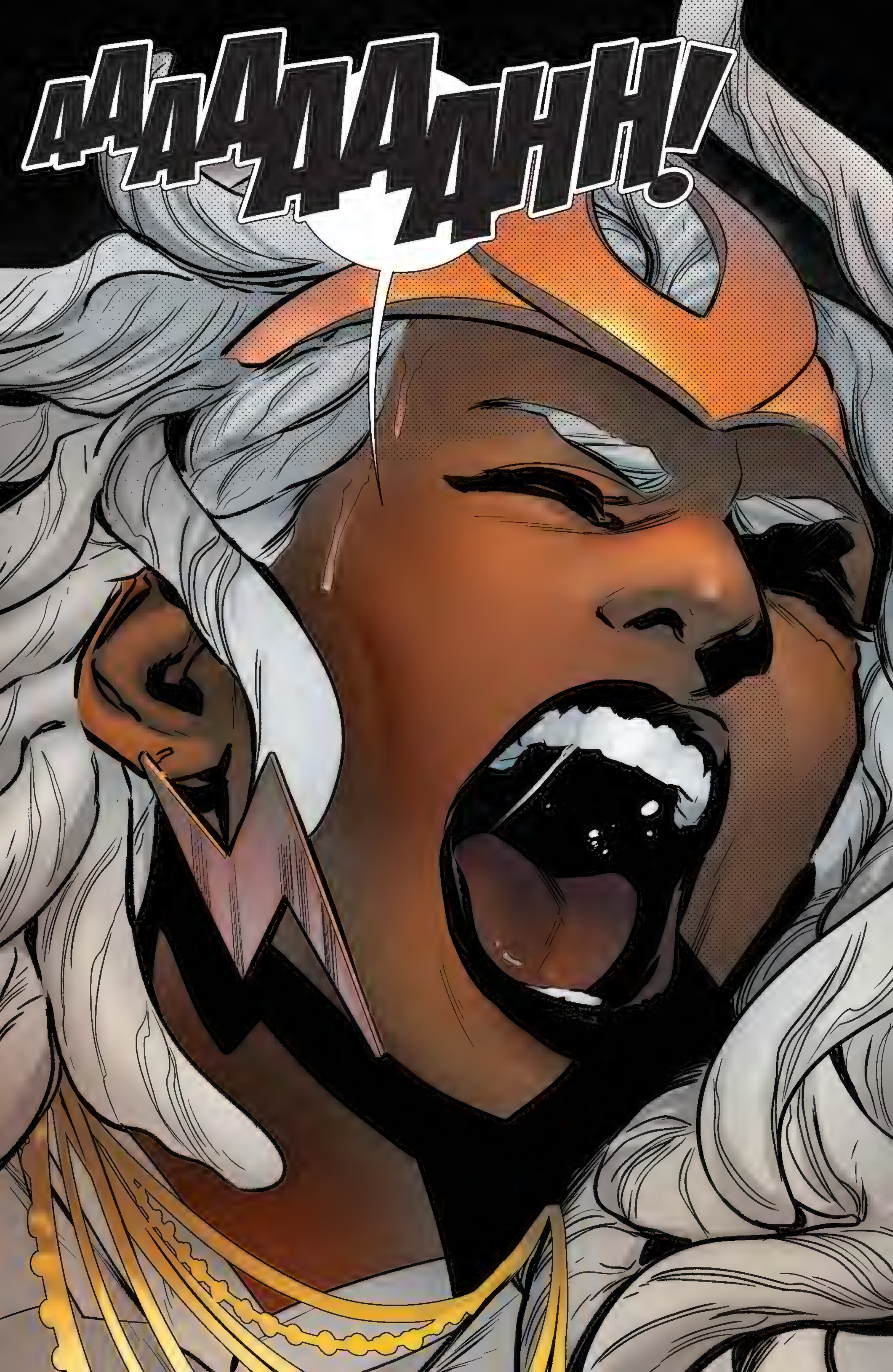


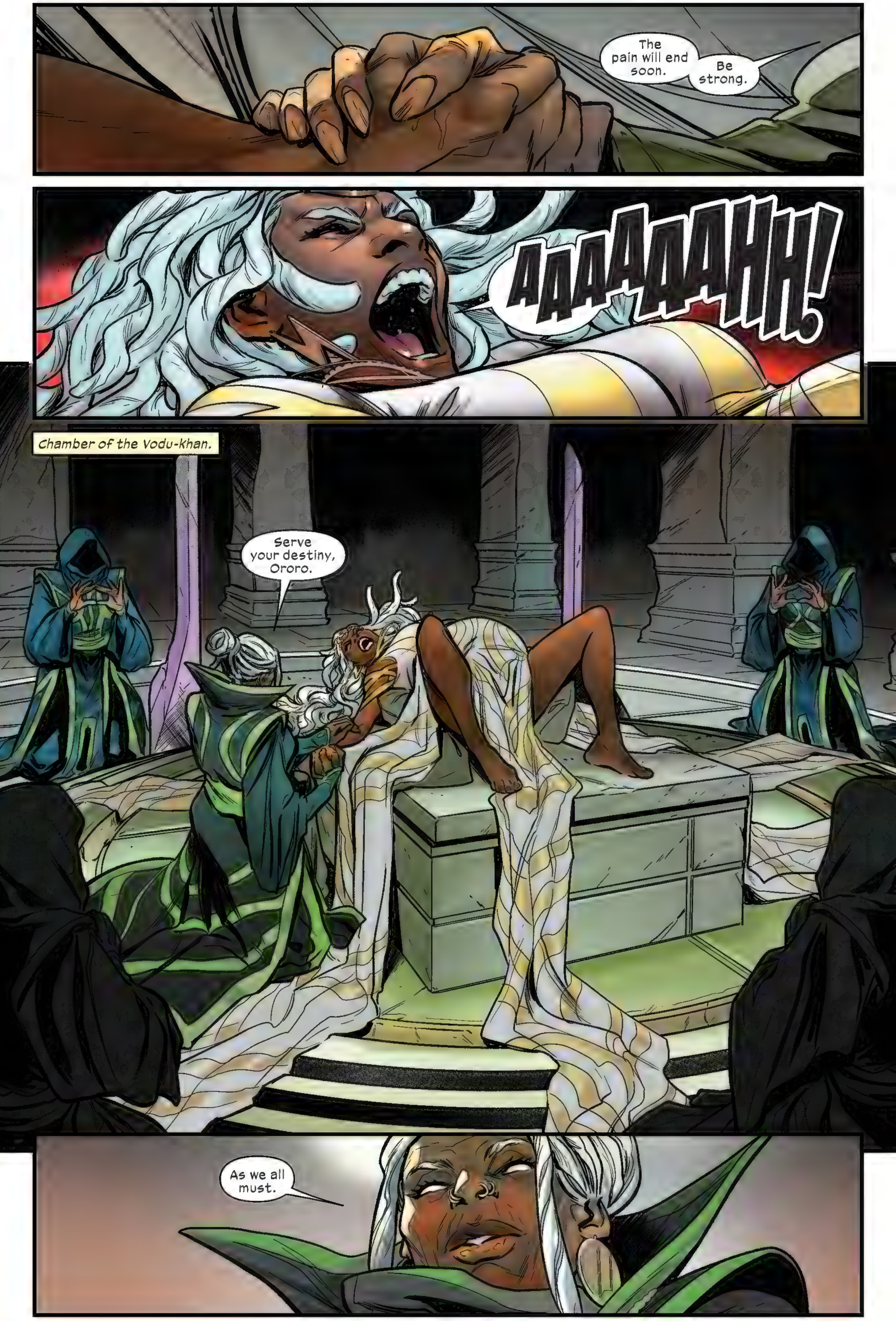
Z'NON
SPIRIT OF
VIBRANIUM

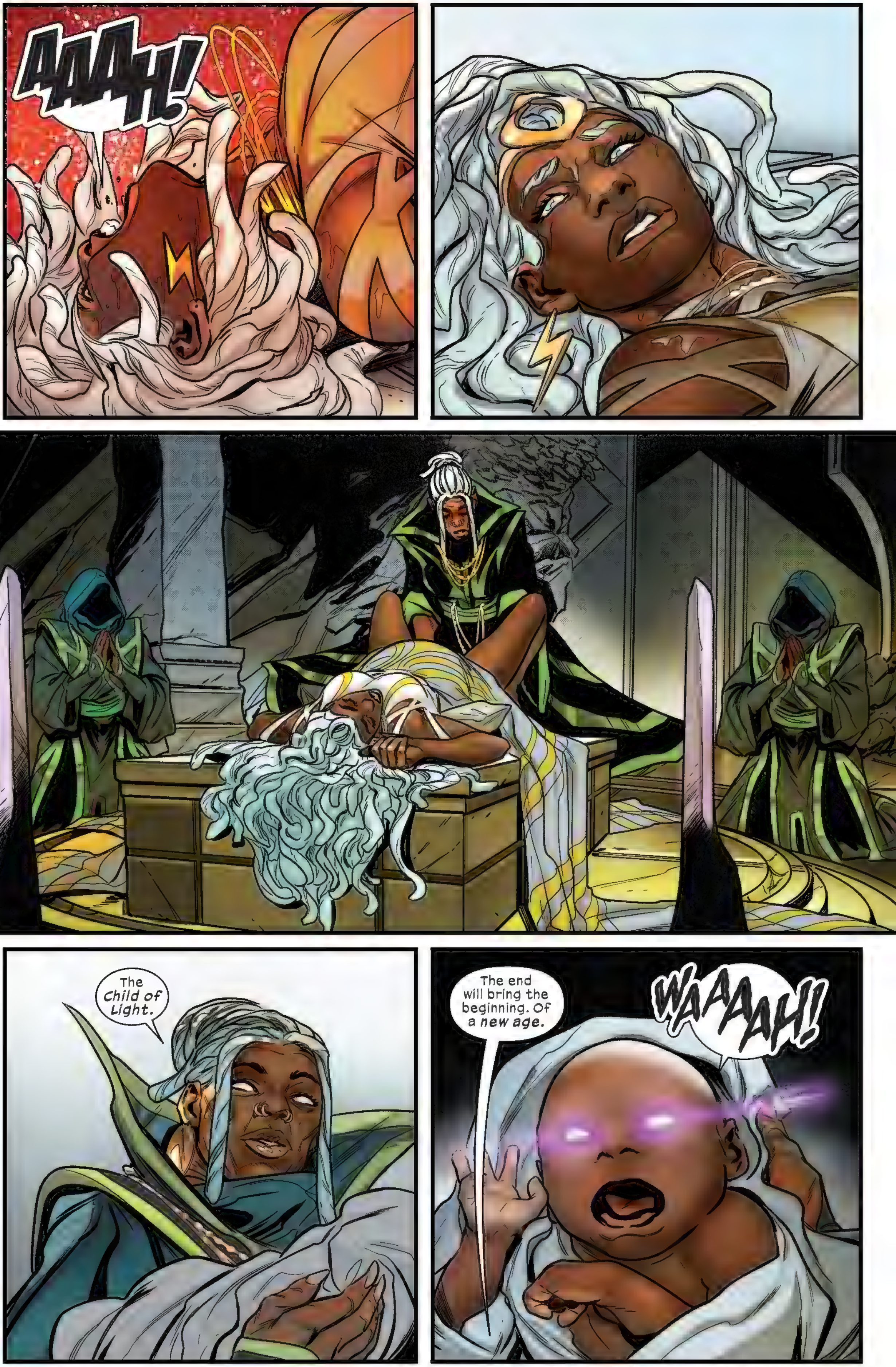


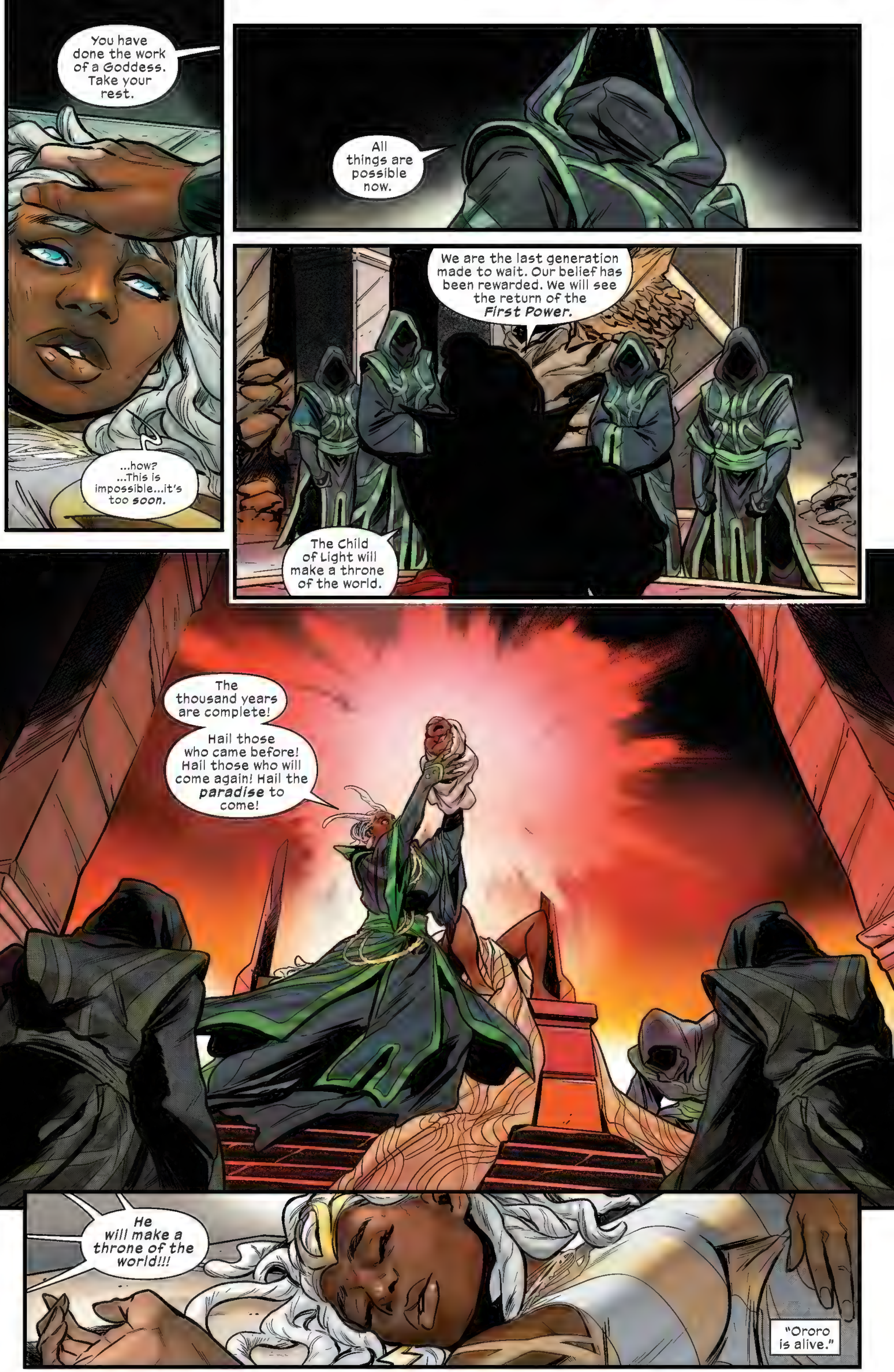
INAN
THE SORCERER
SUPREME

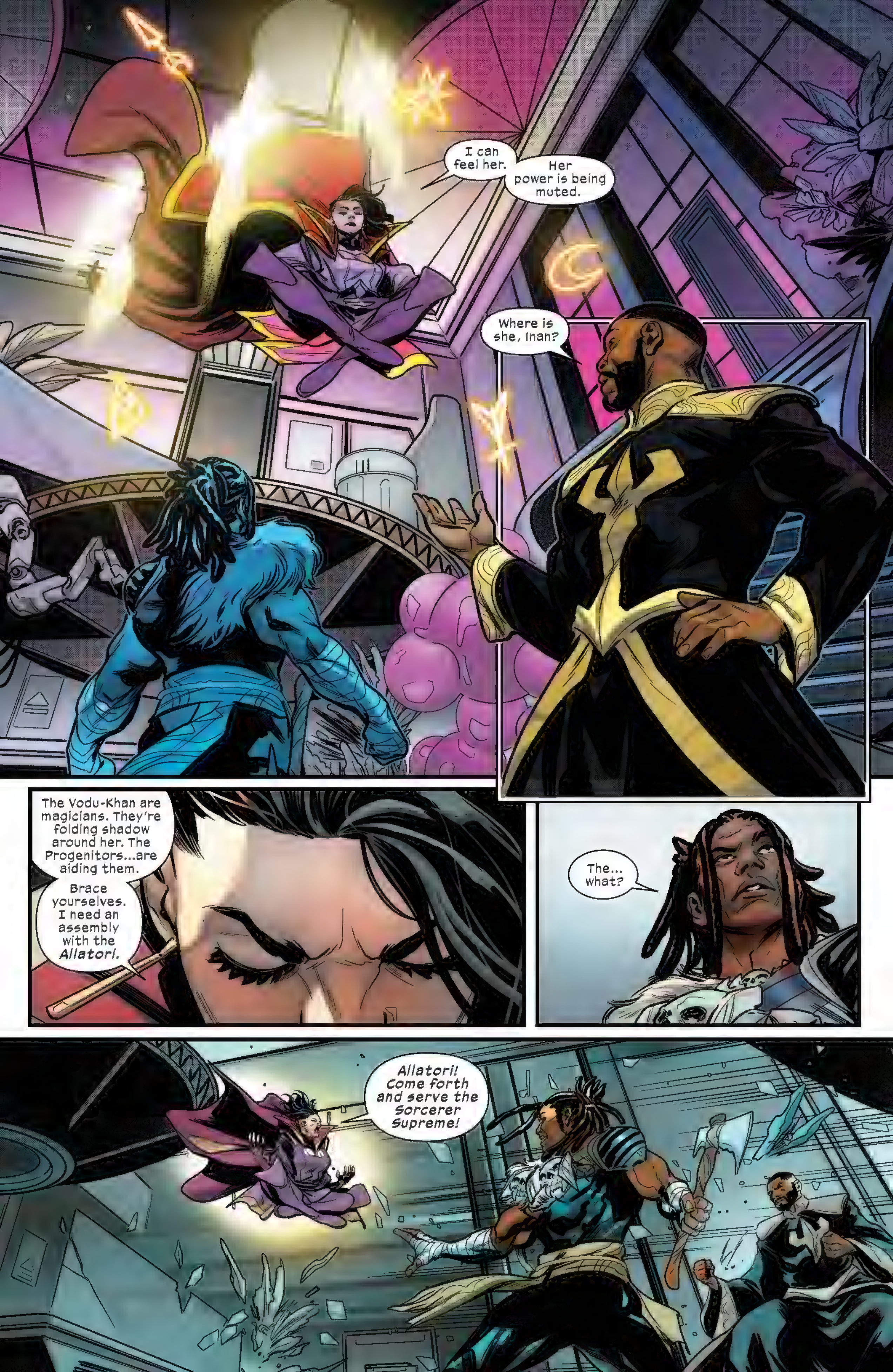
NOVEMBER 2025

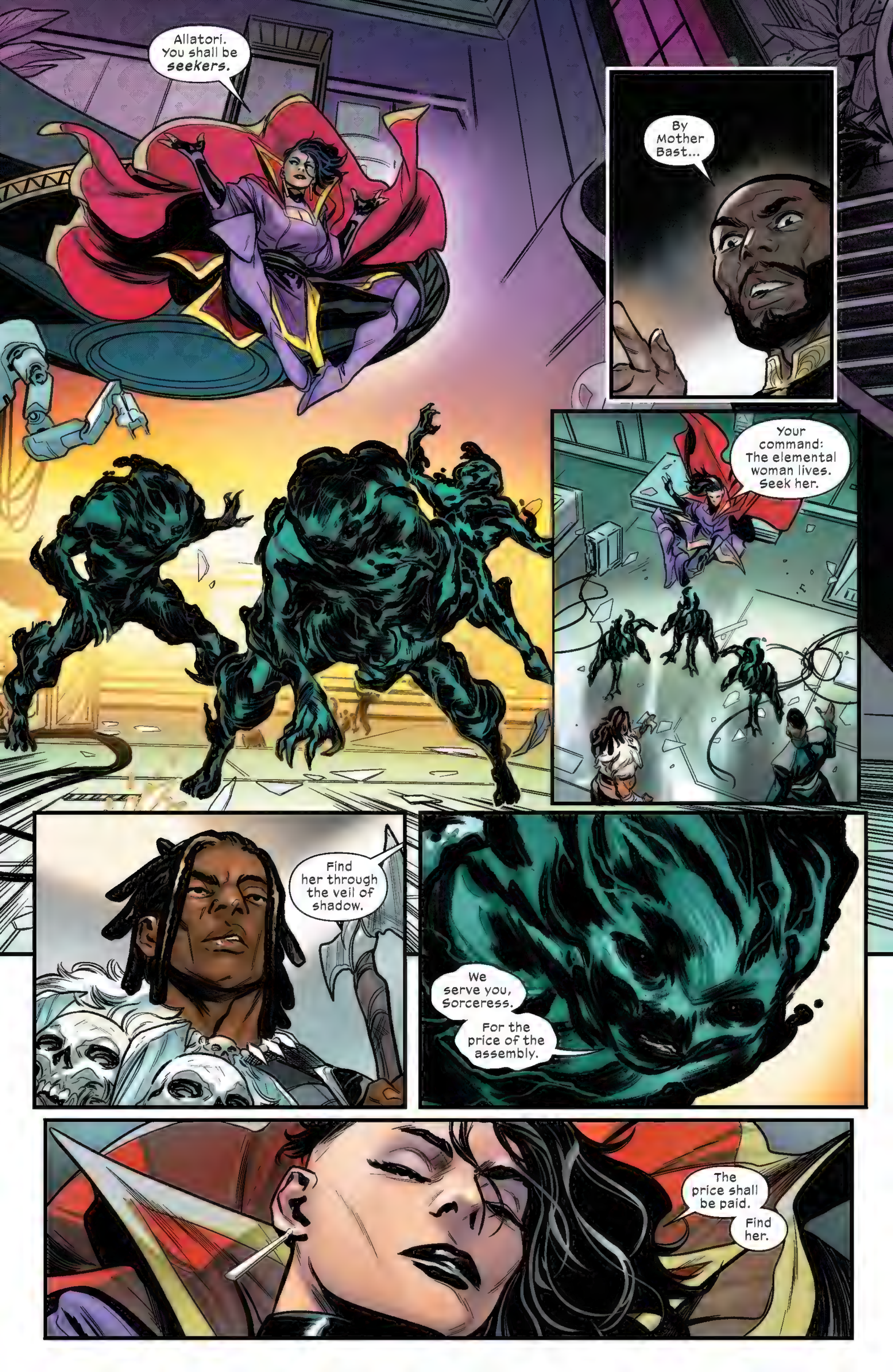

AAAAAAAHH!

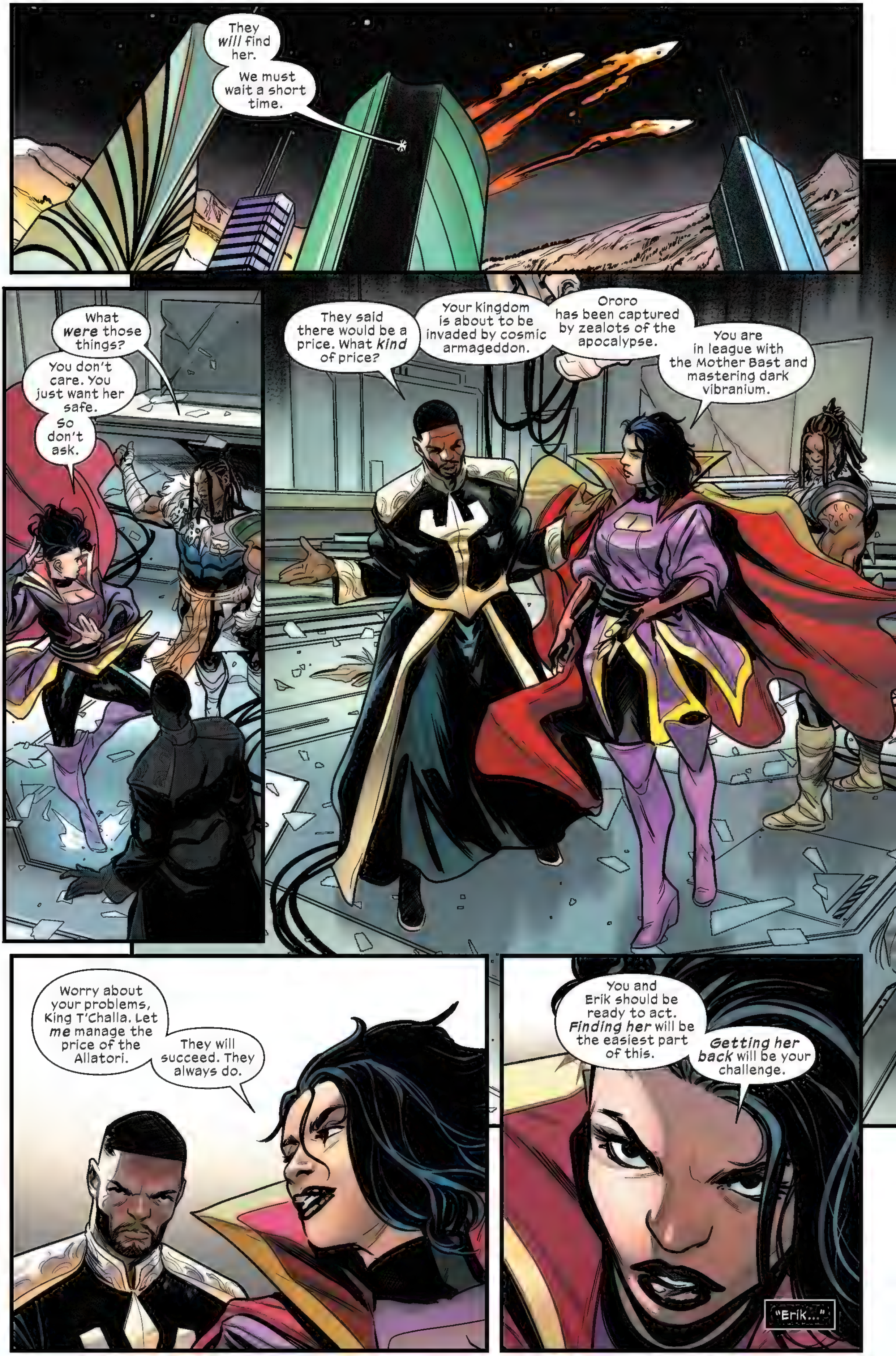

The pain will end soon.
Be strong.
AAAAAAHH!
Chamber of the Vodu-khan.
Serve your destiny, Ororo.
As we all must.

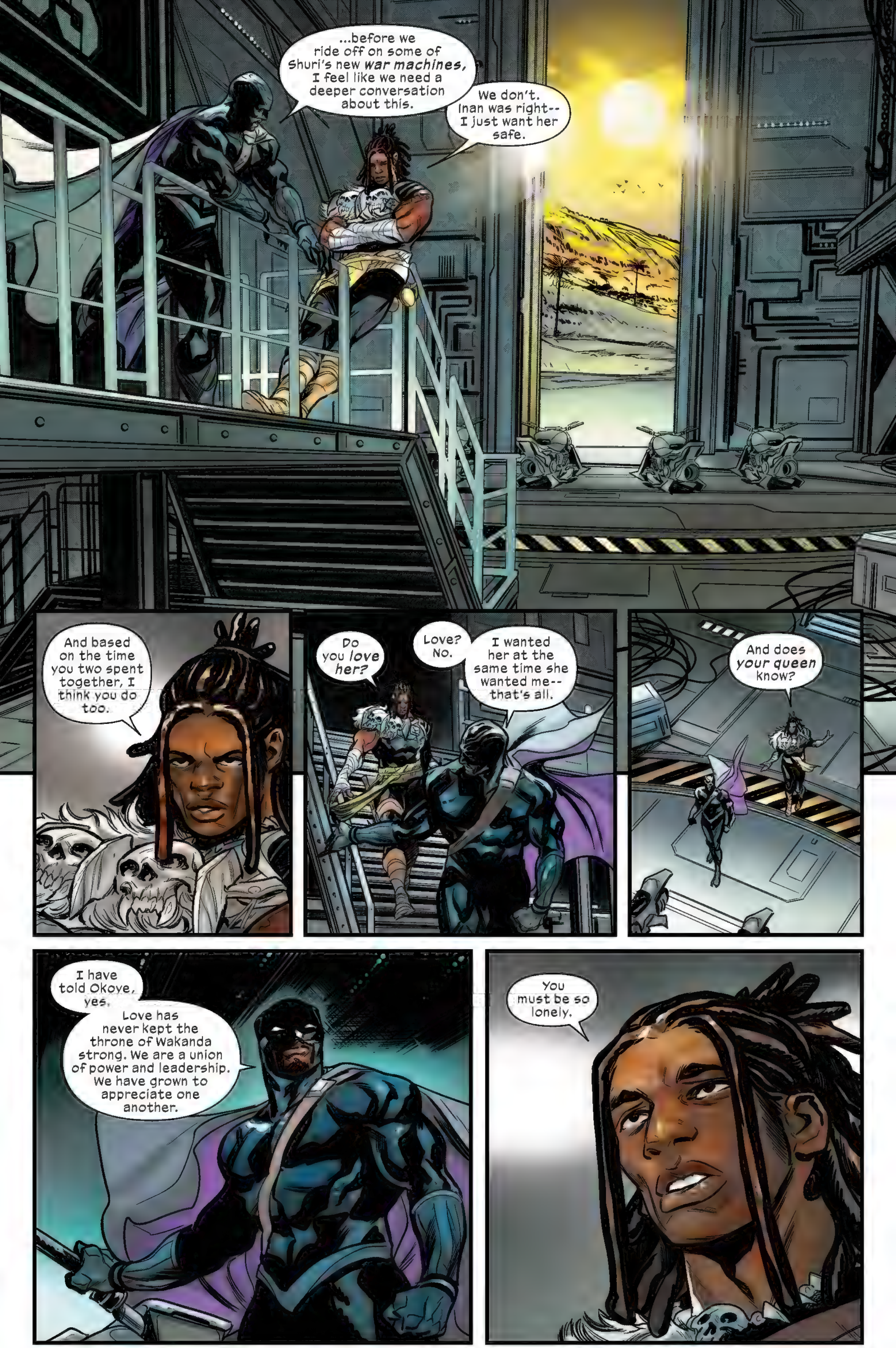

AAAH!
The Child of Light.
The end will bring the beginning. Of a new age.
WAAAAH!

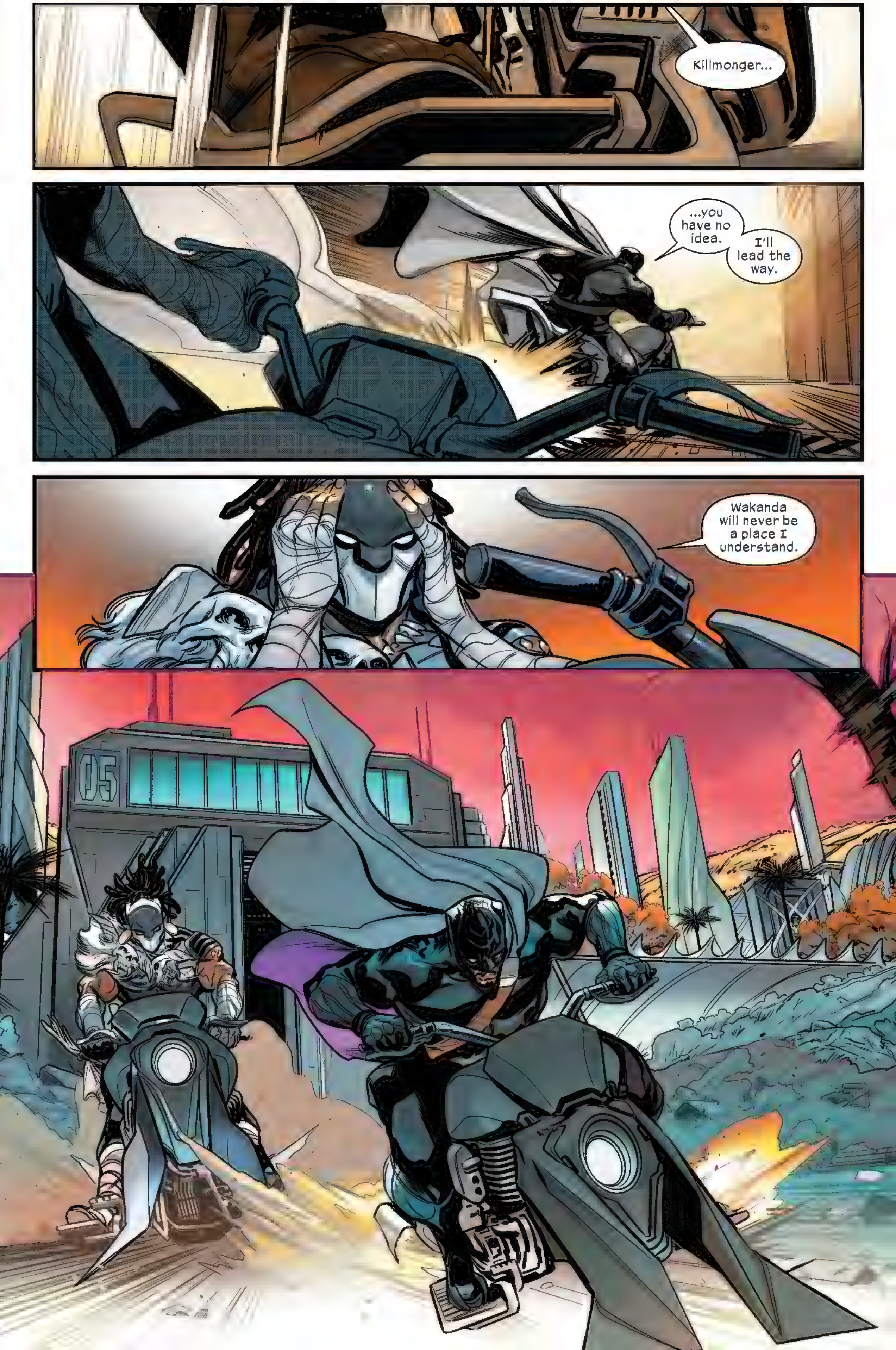

You have done the work of a Goddess. Take your rest.
...how? ...This is impossible...it's too *soon.*
All things are possible now.
We are the last generation made to wait. Our belief has been rewarded. We will see the return of the *First Power.*
The Child of Light will make a throne of the world.
The thousand years are complete!
Hail those who came before! Hail those who will come again! Hail the *paradise* to come!
He will make a throne of the world!!!
"Ororo is alive."

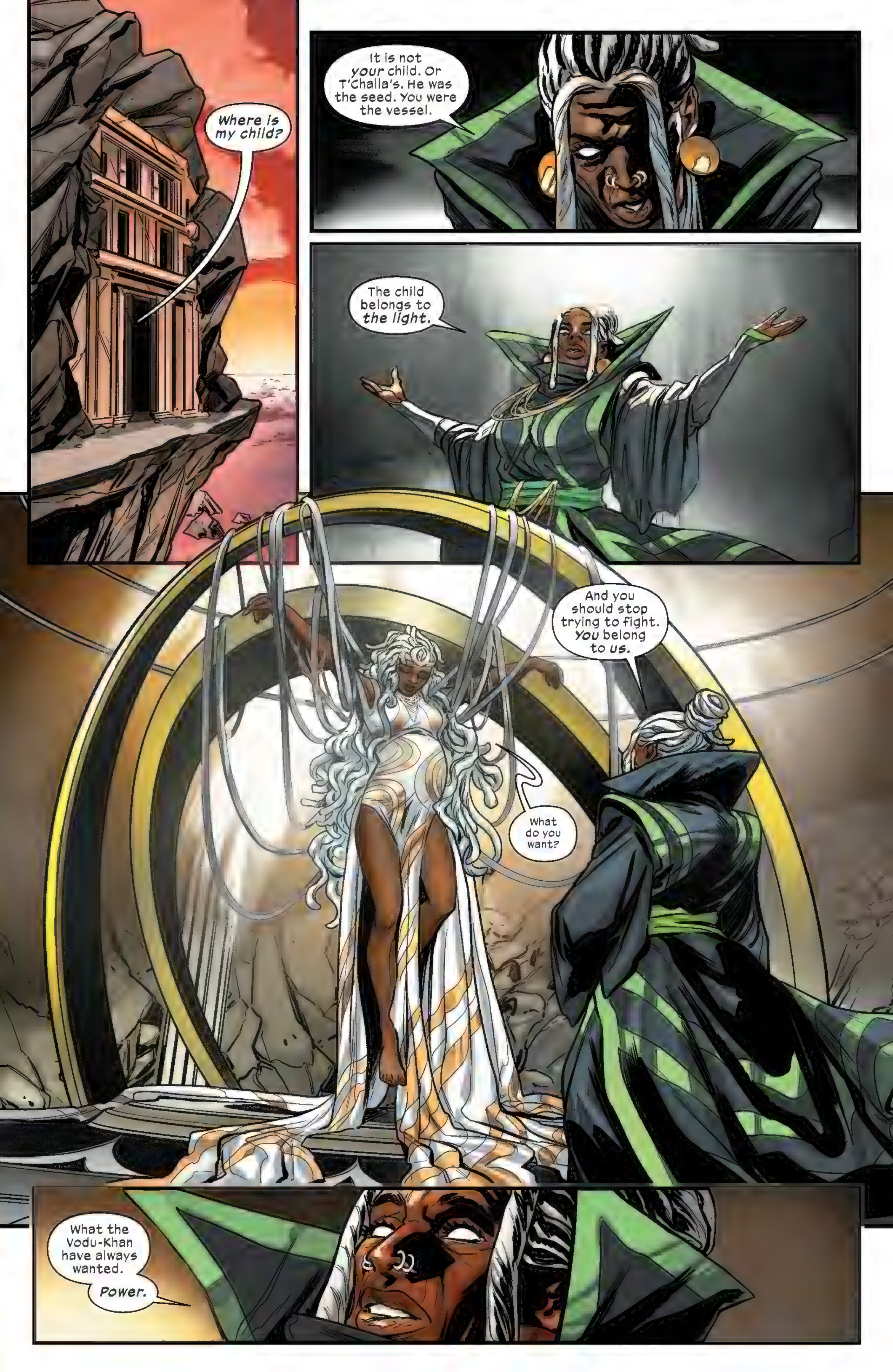

I can feel her.
Her power is being muted.
Where is she, Inan?
The Vodu-Khan are magicians. They're folding shadow around her. The Progenitors...are aiding them.
Brace yourselves. I need an assembly with the *Allatori*.
The... what?
Allatori! Come forth and serve the Sorcerer Supreme!

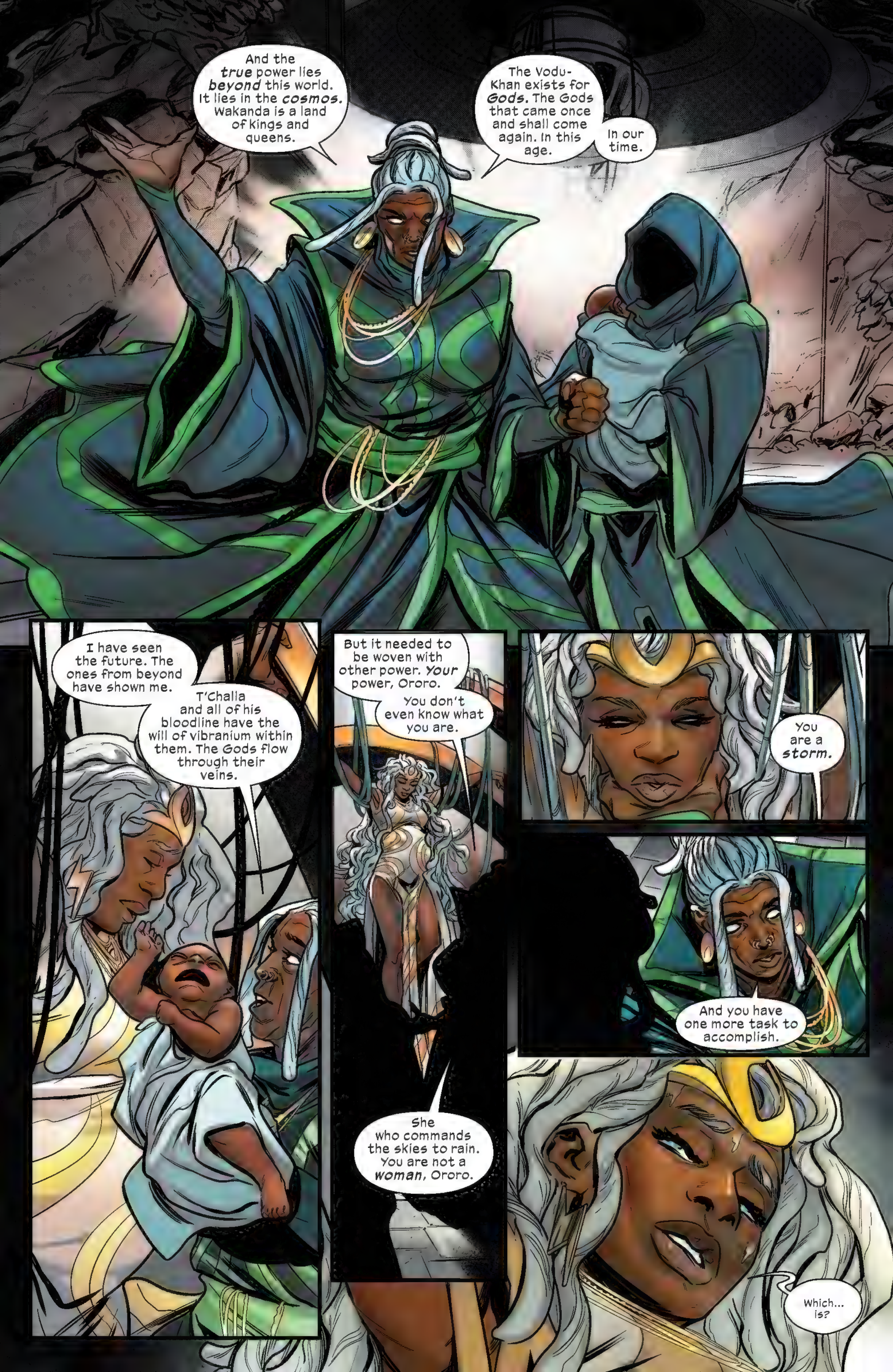

Allatori. You shall be *seekers.*
By Mother Bast...
Your command: The elemental woman lives. Seek her.
Find her through the veil of shadow.
We serve you, Sorceress.
For the price of the assembly.
The price shall be paid.
Find her.

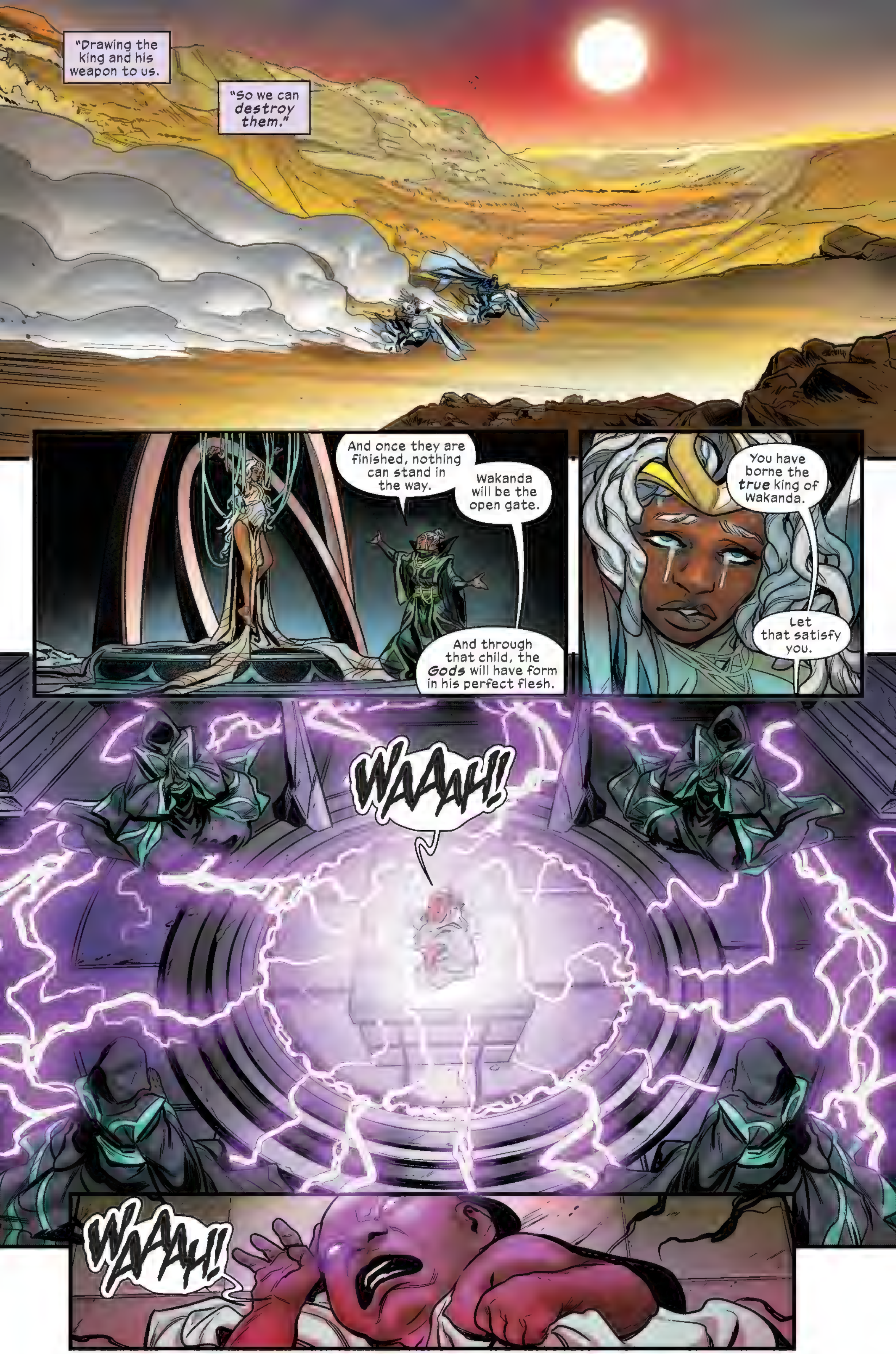

They *will* find her.
We must wait a short time.
What *were* those things?
You don't care. You just want her safe.
So don't ask.
They said there would be a price. What *kind* of price?
Your kingdom is about to be invaded by cosmic armageddon.
Ororo has been captured by zealots of the apocalypse.
You are in league with the Mother Bast and mastering dark vibranium.
Worry about your problems, King T'Challa. Let *me* manage the price of the Allatori.
They will succeed. They always do.
You and Erik should be ready to act. *Finding her* will be the easiest part of this.
Getting her back will be your challenge.
"Erik..."

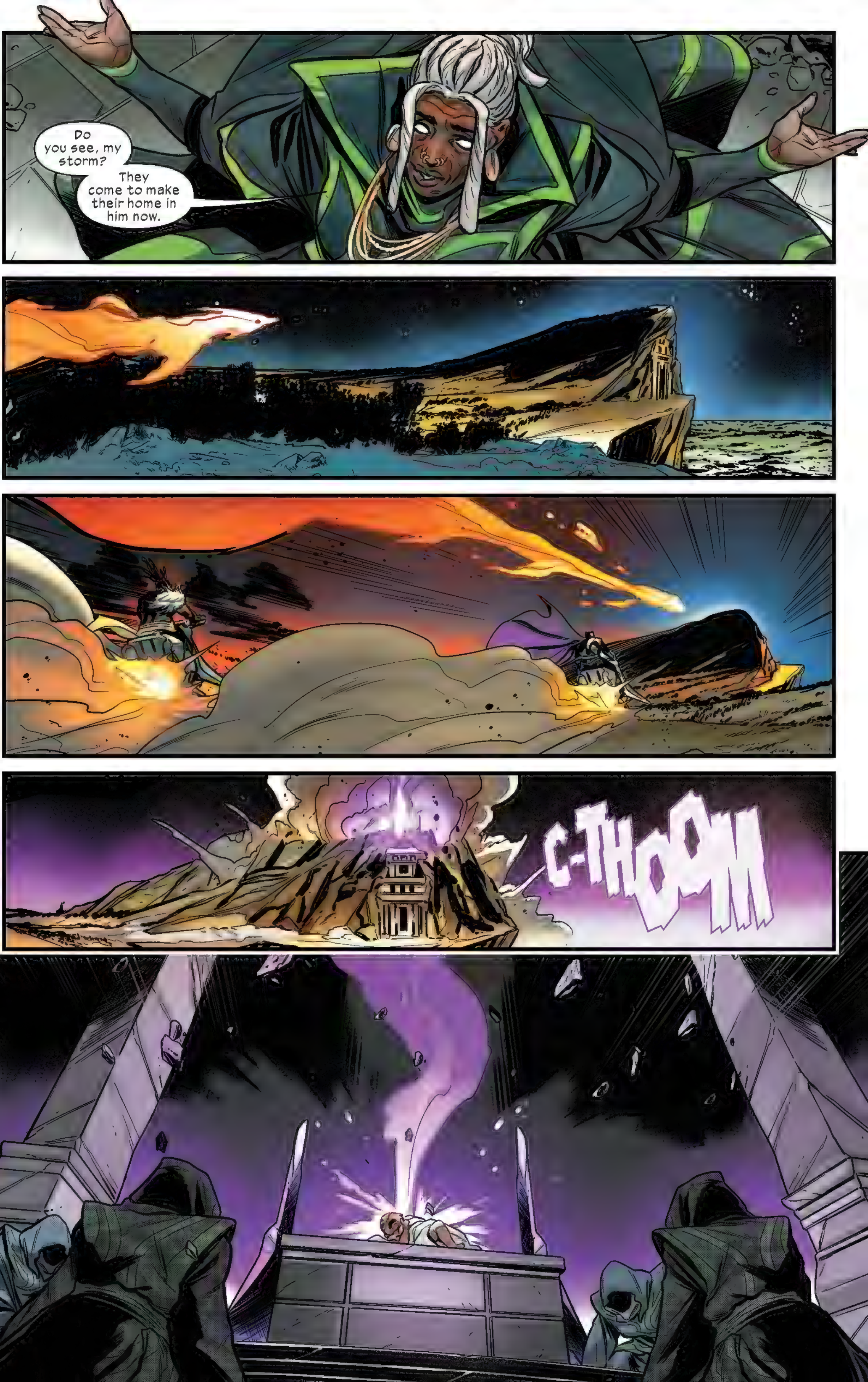

...before we ride off on some of Shuri's new *war machines,* I feel like we need a deeper conversation about this.
We don't. Inan was right--I just want her safe.
And based on the time you two spent together, I think you do too.
Do you *love her?*
Love? No.
I wanted her at the same time she wanted me--that's all.
And does *your queen* know?
I have told Okoye, yes.
Love has never kept the throne of Wakanda strong. We are a union of power and leadership. We have grown to appreciate one another.
You must be so lonely.

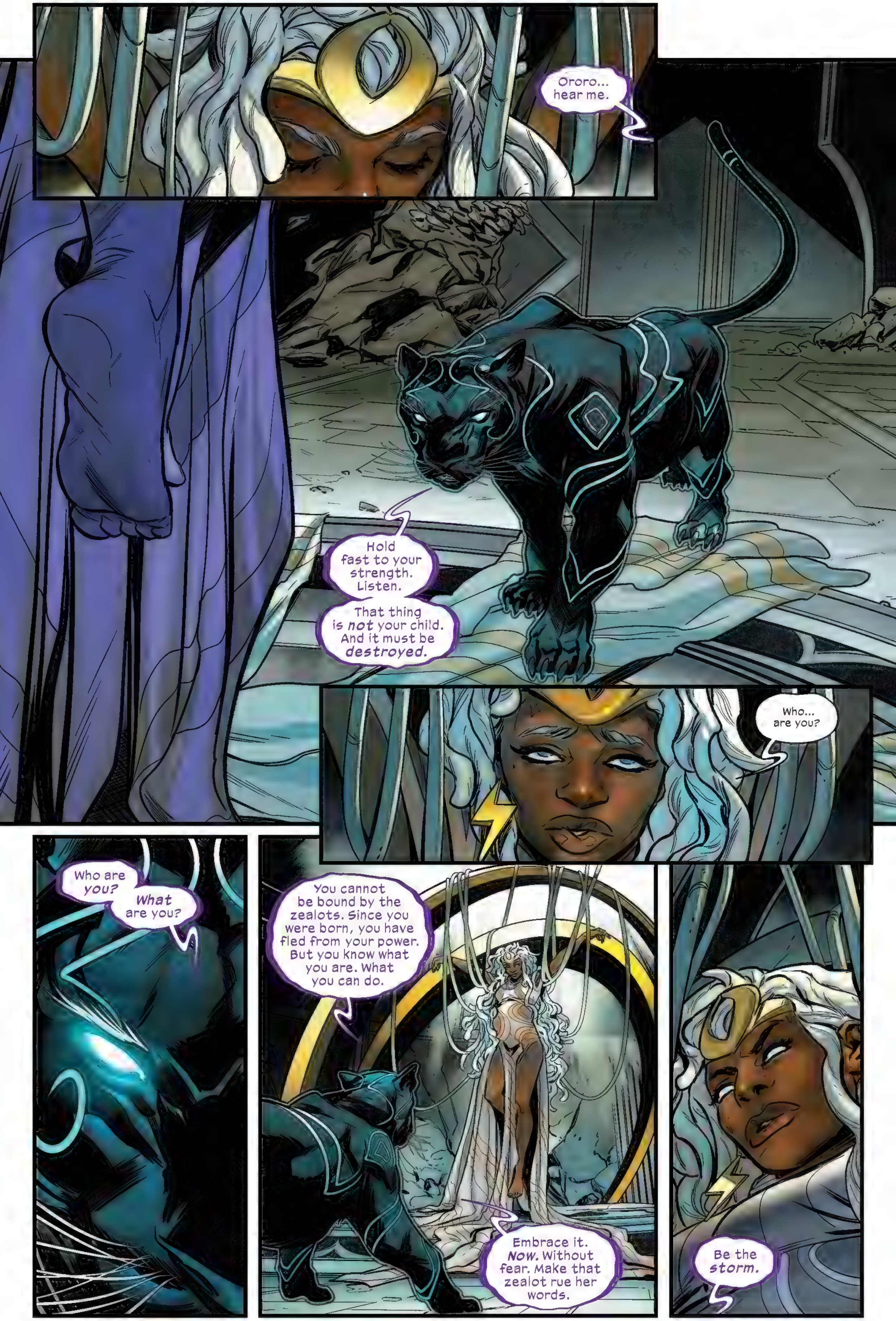

Killmonger...
...you have no idea.
I'll lead the way.
Wakanda will never be a place I understand.
05

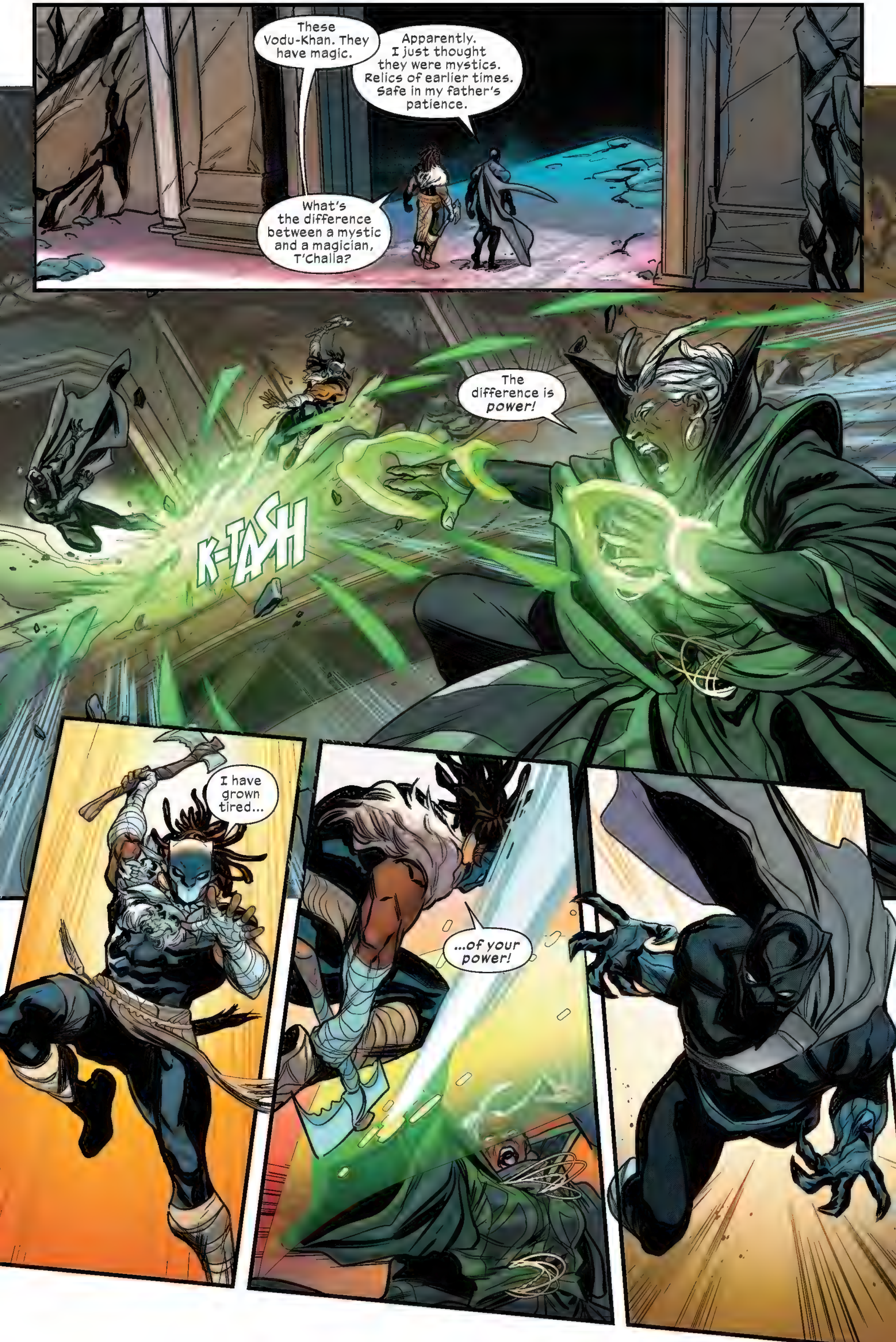

Where is my child?
It is not *your* child. Or T'Challa's. He was the seed. You were the vessel.
The child belongs to *the light.*
And you should stop trying to fight. *You* belong to *us.*
What do you want?
What the Vodu-Khan have always wanted.
Power.

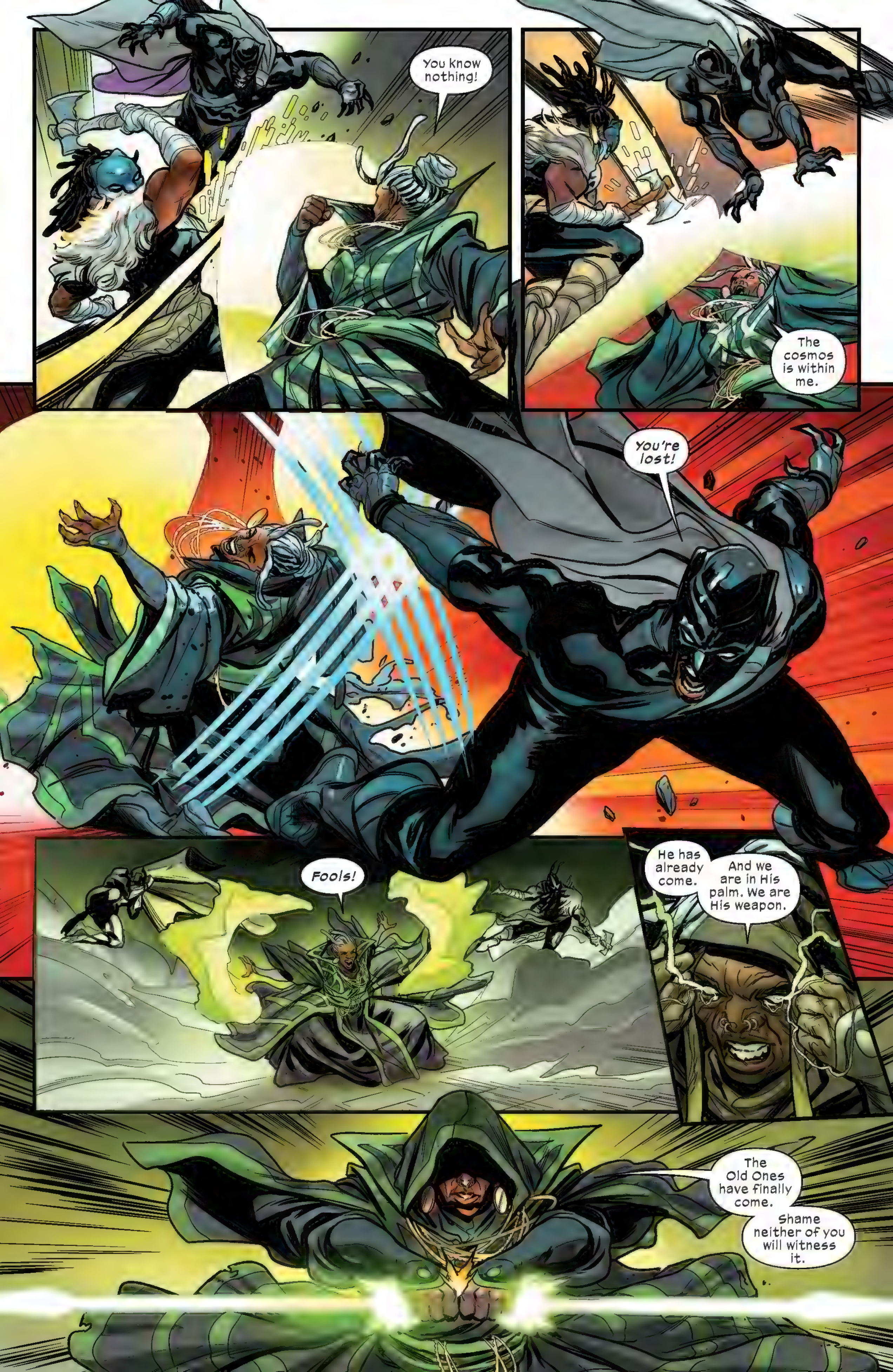

And the *true* power lies *beyond* this world. It lies in the *cosmos.* Wakanda is a land of kings and queens.
The Vodu-Khan exists for *Gods.* The Gods that came once and shall come again. In this age.
In our time.
I have seen the future. The ones from beyond have shown me.
T'Challa and all of his bloodline have the will of vibranium within them. The Gods flow through their veins.
But it needed to be woven with other power. *Your* power, Ororo.
You don't even know what you are.
She who commands the skies to rain. You are not a *woman,* Ororo.
You are a *storm.*
And you have one more task to accomplish.
Which... is?

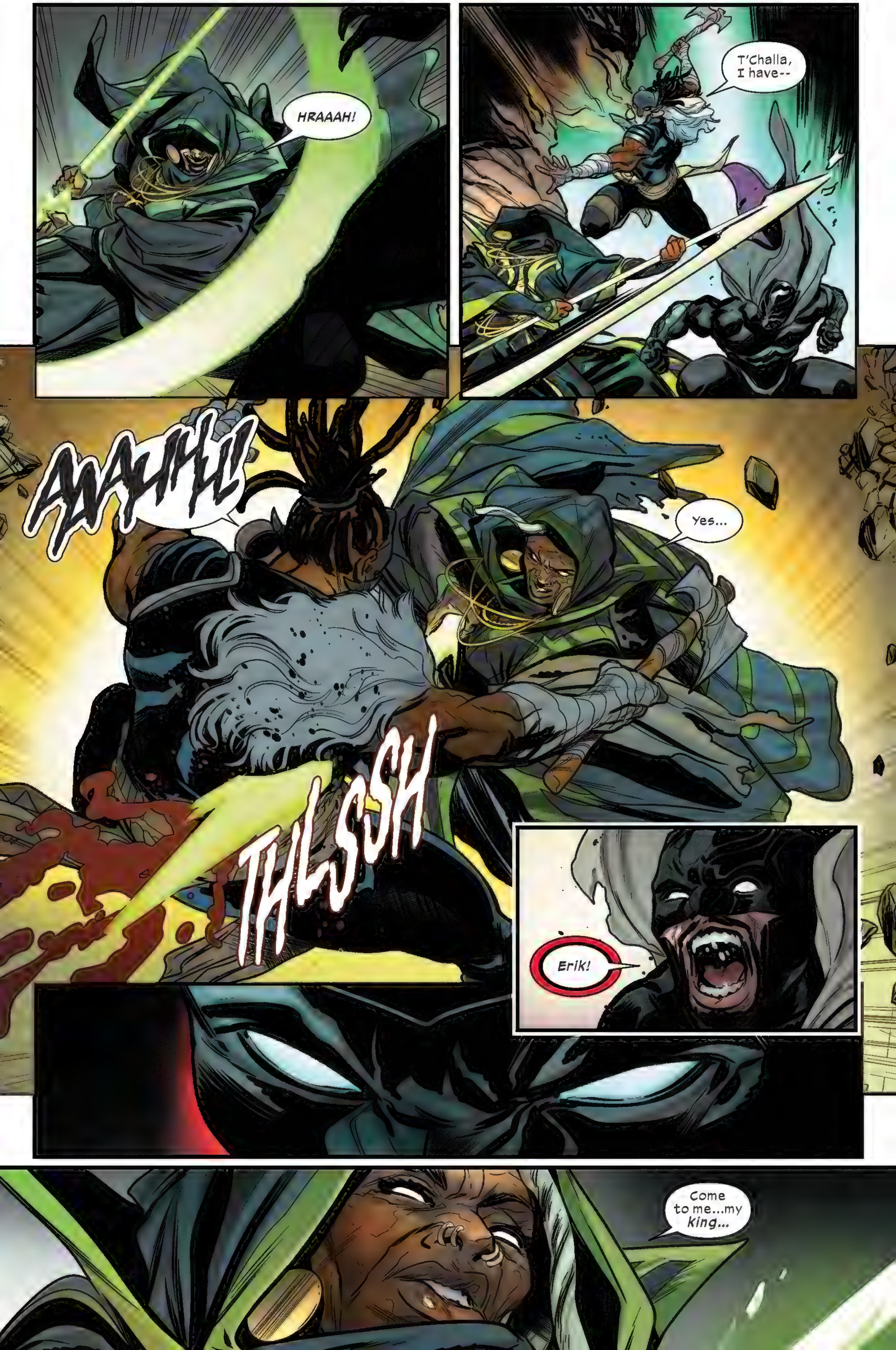

"Drawing the king and his weapon to us.
"So we can *destroy them.*"
And once they are finished, nothing can stand in the way.
Wakanda will be the open gate.
And through that child, the *Gods* will have form in his perfect flesh.
You have borne the *true* king of Wakanda.
Let that satisfy you.
WAAAH!
WAAAH!

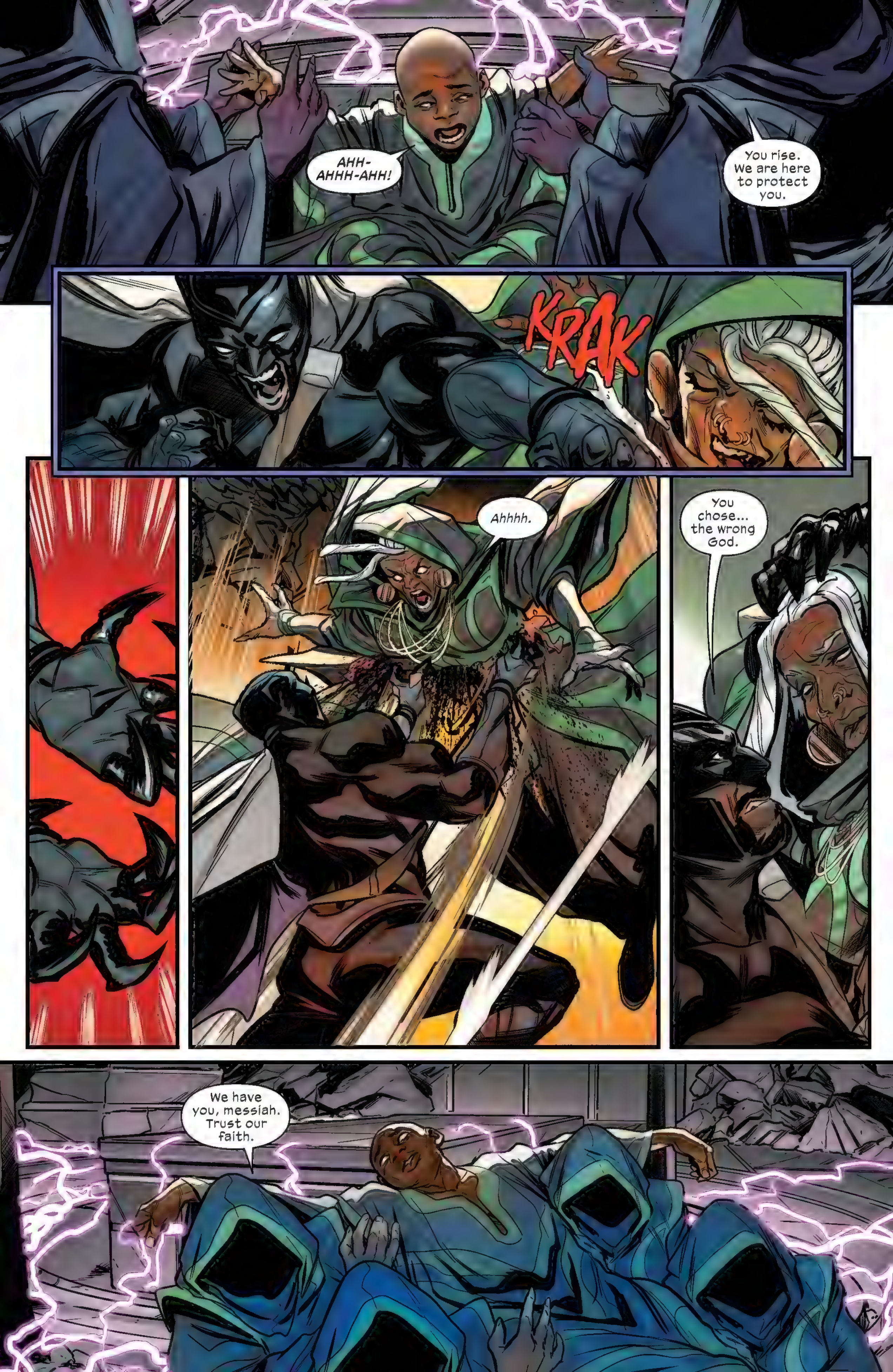

Do you see, my storm?
They come to make their home in him now.
C-THOOM

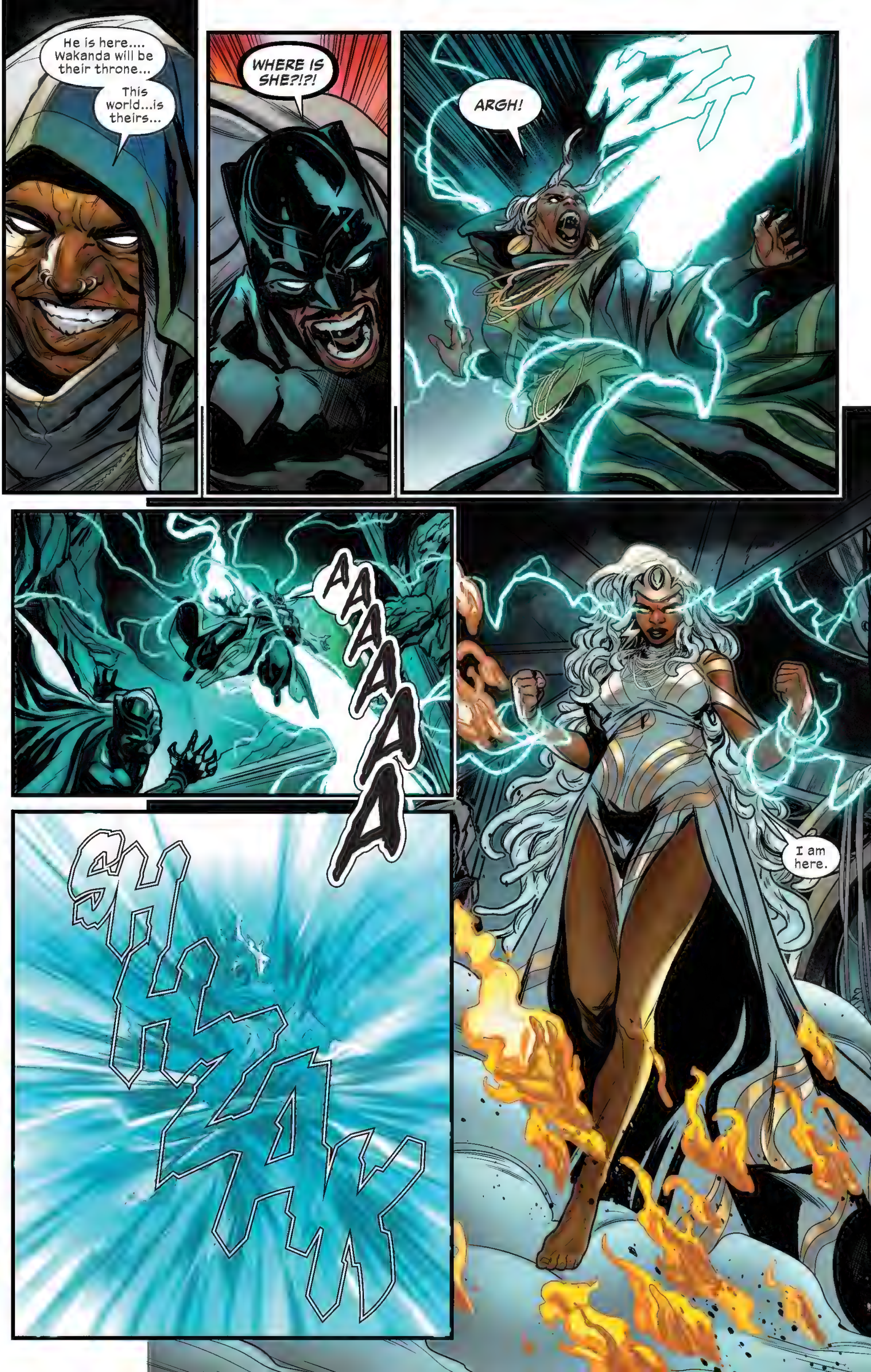

Ororo... hear me.
Hold fast to your strength. Listen.
That thing is *not* your child. And it must be *destroyed.*
Who... are you?
Who are *you?*
What are you?
You cannot be bound by the zealots. Since you were born, you have fled from your power. But you know what you are. What you can do.
Embrace it. *Now.* Without fear. Make that zealot rue her words.
Be the *storm.*

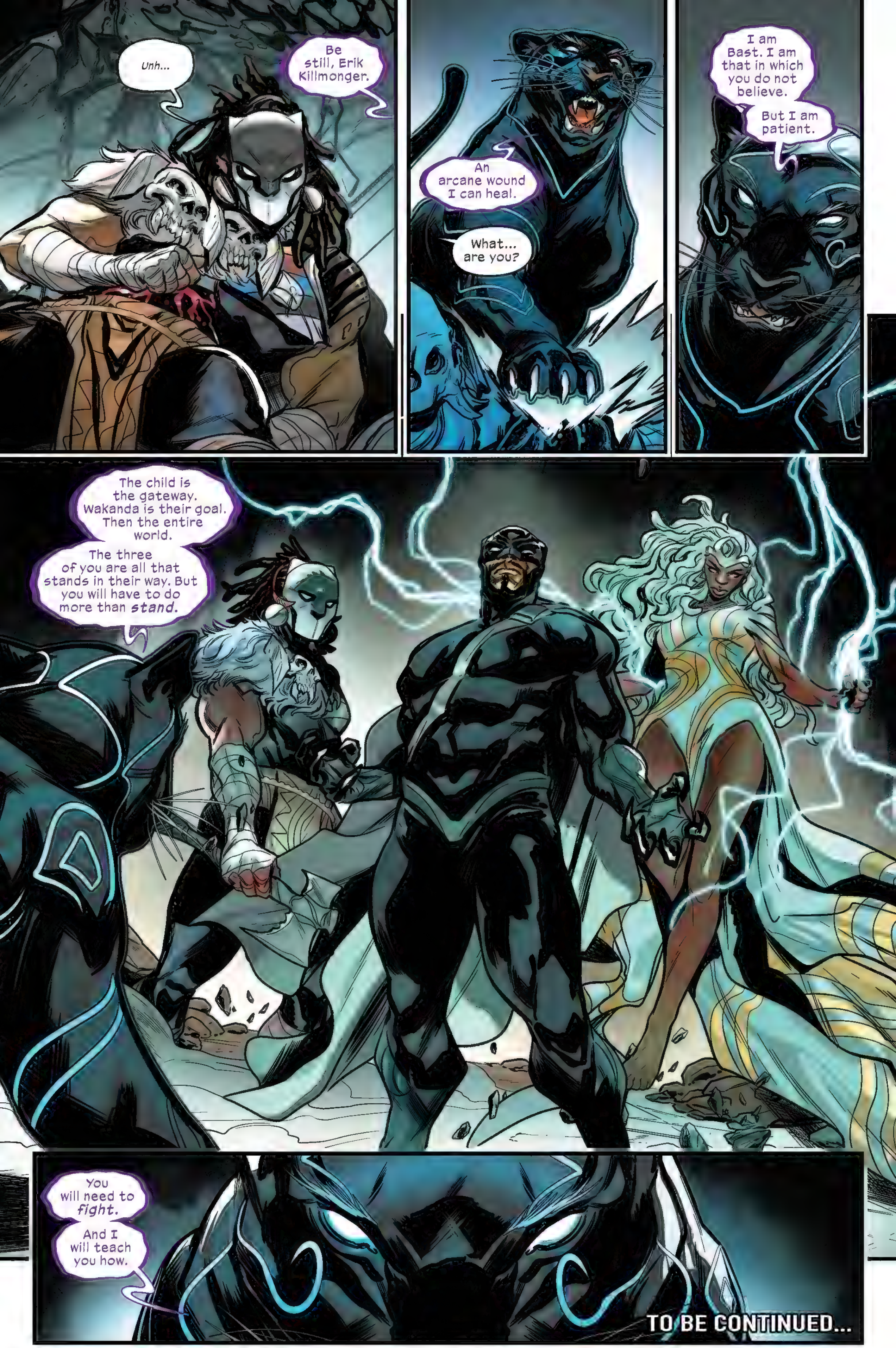

These Vodu-Khan. They have magic.
Apparently. I just thought they were mystics. Relics of earlier times. Safe in my father's patience.
What's the difference between a mystic and a magician, T'Challa?
The difference is *power!*
K-TASH
I have grown tired...
...of your power!


You know nothing!
The cosmos is within me.
You're lost!
Fools!
He has already come.
And we are in His palm. We are His weapon.
The Old Ones have finally come.
Shame neither of you will witness it.


HRAAAH!
T'Challa, I have--
AAAHH!
Yes...
THLSSH
Erik!
Come to me...my king...


AHH-
AHHH-AHH!
You rise.
We are here
to protect
you.
KRAK
Ahhhh.
You
chose...
the wrong
God.
We have
you, messiah.
Trust our
faith.


He is here.... Wakanda will be their throne...
This world...is theirs...
WHERE IS SHE?!?!
ARGH!
KZZT
AAAAAA
SHZAK
I am here.


Unh...
Be still, Erik Killmonger.
An arcane wound I can heal.
What... are you?
I am Bast. I am that in which you do not believe.
But I am patient.
The child is the gateway. Wakanda is their goal. Then the entire world.
The three of you are all that stands in their way. But you will have to do more than *stand.*
You will need to *fight.*
And I will teach you how.
TO BE CONTINUED...

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BLACK PANTHER CREATED BY **STAN LEE** & **JACK KIRBY**

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MARVEL
23
ULTIMATE
BLACK PANTHER
HILL | NEITO | CURIEL

ON SALE IN **DECEMBER**

ON SALE THIS MONTH

MARVEL
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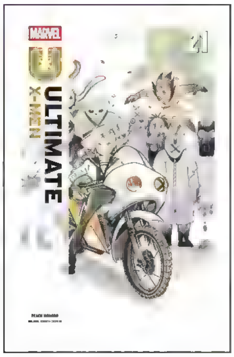
ULTIMATE
SPIDER-MAN

ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN #23

BY **JONATHAN HICKMAN**,
MARCO CHECCHETTO & **DAVID MESSINA**


MARVEL
21
ULTIMATE
X-MEN

ULTIMATE X-MEN #21

BY **PEACH MOMOKO**

MARVEL
18
THE ULTIMATES

ULTIMATES #18

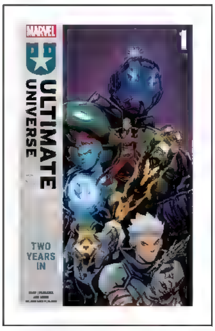
BY **DENIZ CAMP**
& **JUAN FRIGERI**

MARVEL
11
ULTIMATE
WOLVERINE

ULTIMATE WOLVERINE #11

BY **CHRIS CONDON**
& **ALESSANDRO CAPPUCCIO**

ON SALE NEXT MONTH


MARVEL
1
ULTIMATE
UNIVERSE
TWO YEARS IN

ULTIMATE UNIVERSE: TWO YEARS IN #1

BY **DENIZ CAMP**,
ALEX PAKNADEL & **MORE**

MARVEL
ULTIMATE
ENDGAME

ULTIMATE ENDGAME #1

BY **DENIZ CAMP**,
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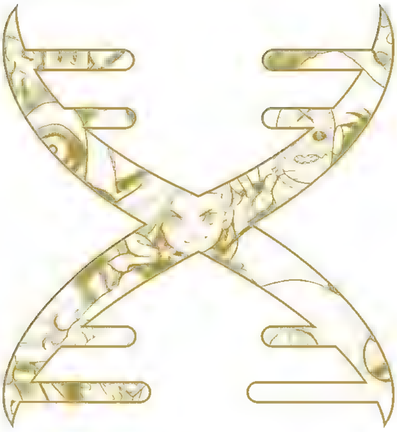

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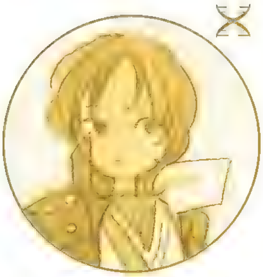
A diabolical genius known as **THE MAKER** used time travel to create his ideal Earth by systematically preventing anyone from ever becoming a super hero—except for those on his secret **MAKER'S COUNCIL**, whom he stationed to rule over different regions of the world.

HI NO KUNI ("LAND OF THE SUN") became one of two hotbeds for mutant activity, but civilians were unaware until social media exploded with the story of **CHILDREN OF THE ATOM**, a cult for mutant youth led by a zealot known as **MAESTER**.

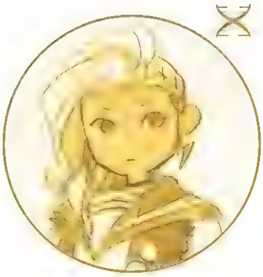
Mutant tension came to a head when **MEI IGARASHI (MAYSTORM)** and her masked **X-MEN** battled the Children of the Atom. This led **SUNFIRE**, the Sun Emperor and member of the Maker's Council, to declare the **MUTANT REGISTRATION ACT**. But only Maystorm, **HISAKO ICHIKI (ARMOR)**, **KANON SAINOUCHI (PSYLOCKE)** and their friends know that Sunfire is behind the Children of the Atom, building a biological weapon called **MY-X**. But MY-X couldn't exist without the mutant power of **SHINOBU KAGEYAMA (SHADOW KING)**, whose sole focus is Hisako…

ULTIMATE X-MEN

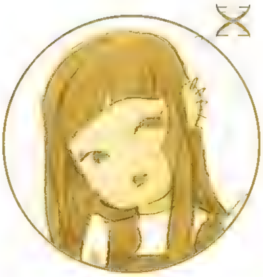
CAST:



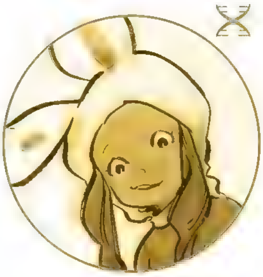
HISAKO ICHIKI
ARMOR



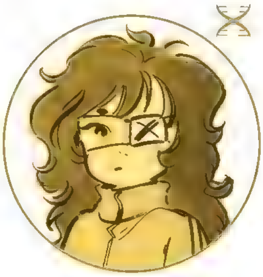
MEI IGARASHI
MAYSTORM



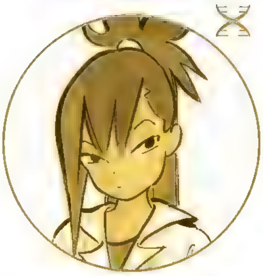
NICO MINORU
FLEDGLING PSYCHIC



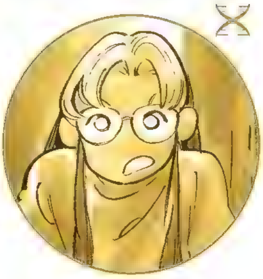
MORI
NICO'S FRIEND



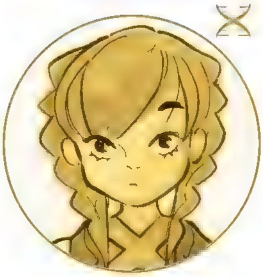
NATSU TSUKISHIMA
NICO'S FRIEND



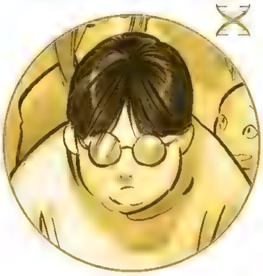
KANON SAINOUCHI
PSYLOCKE



FUTABA
MUTANT
RESEARCHER

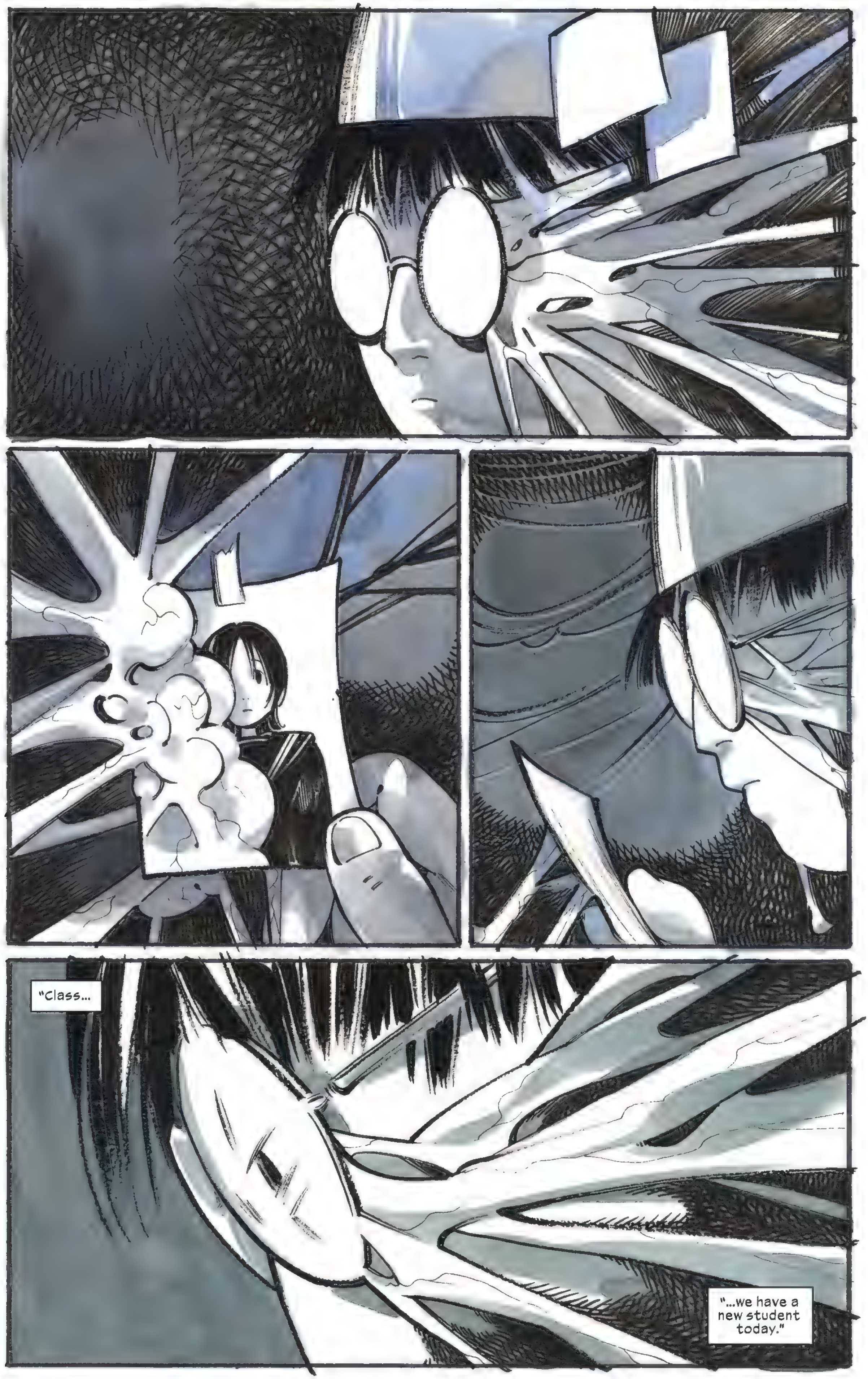


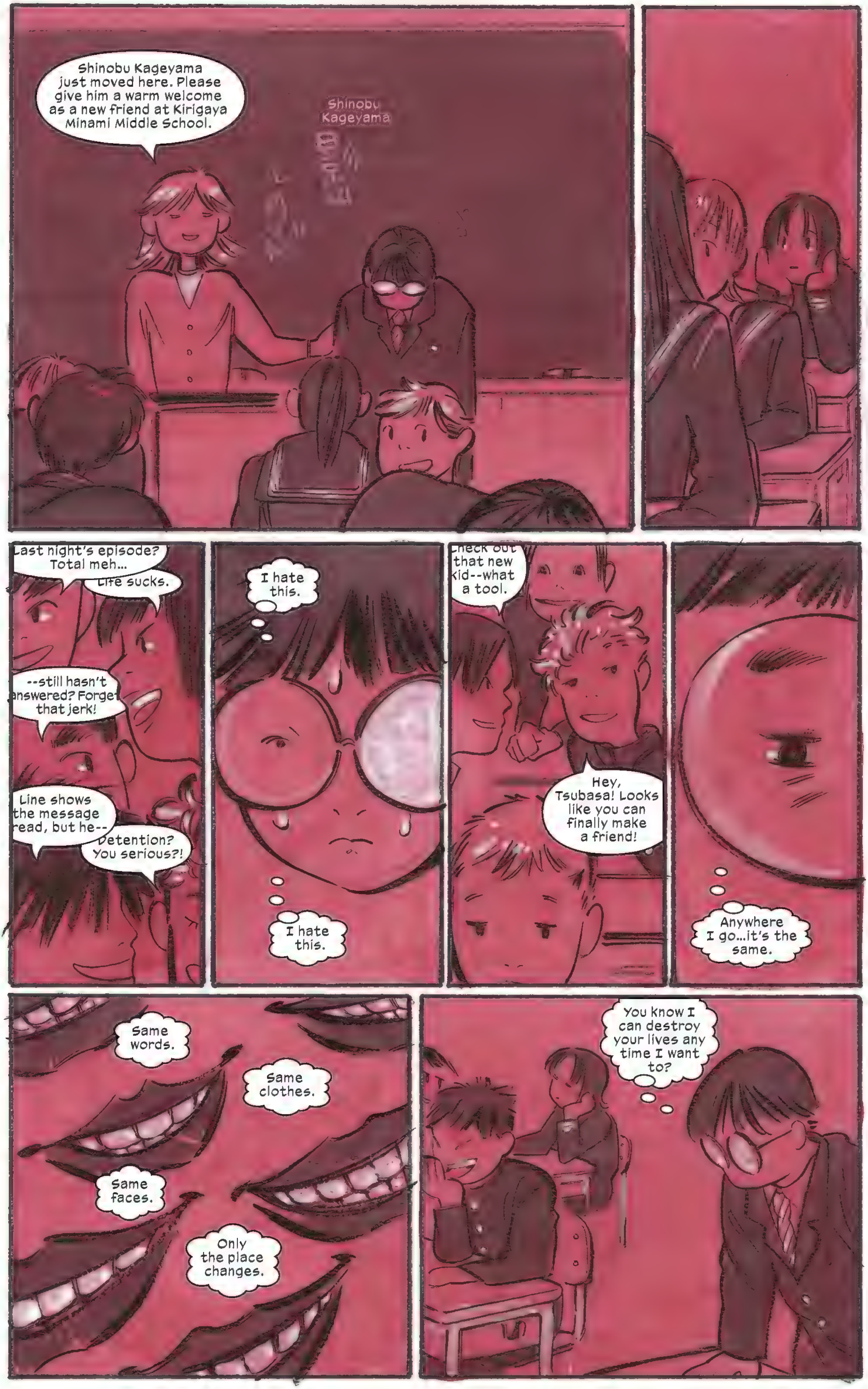
NORIKO ASHIDA
SURGE

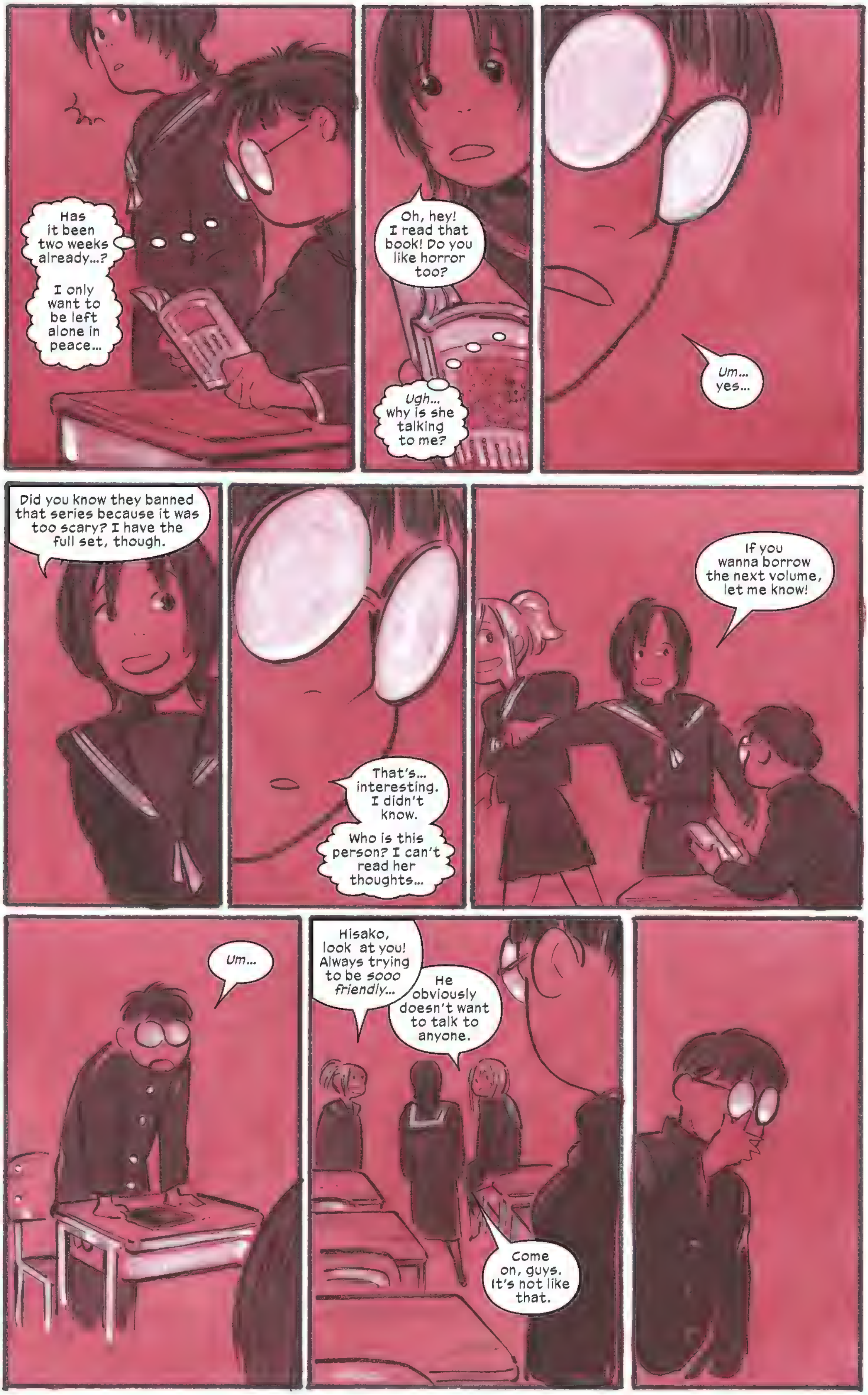


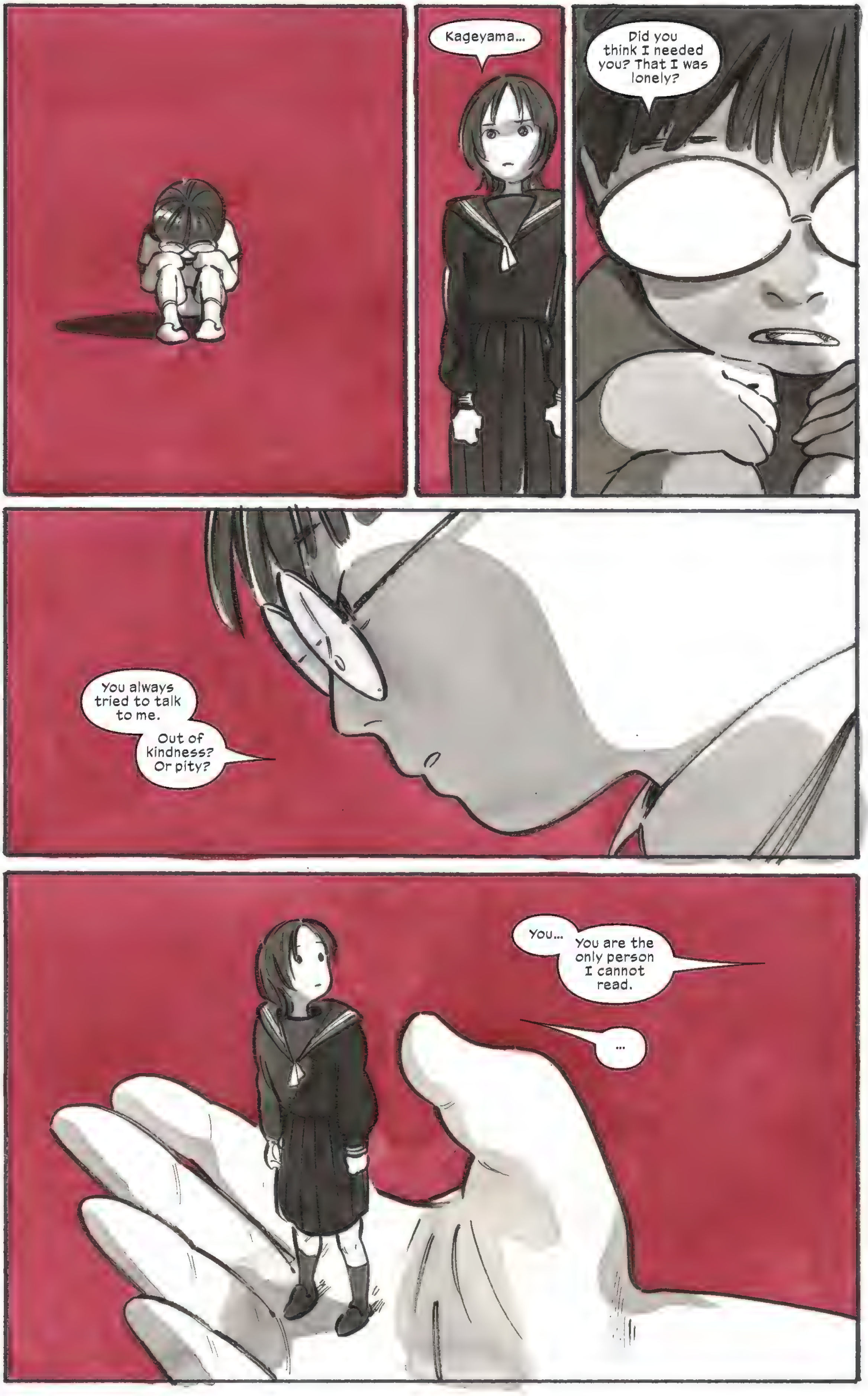
SHINOBU KAGEYAMA
SHADOW KING

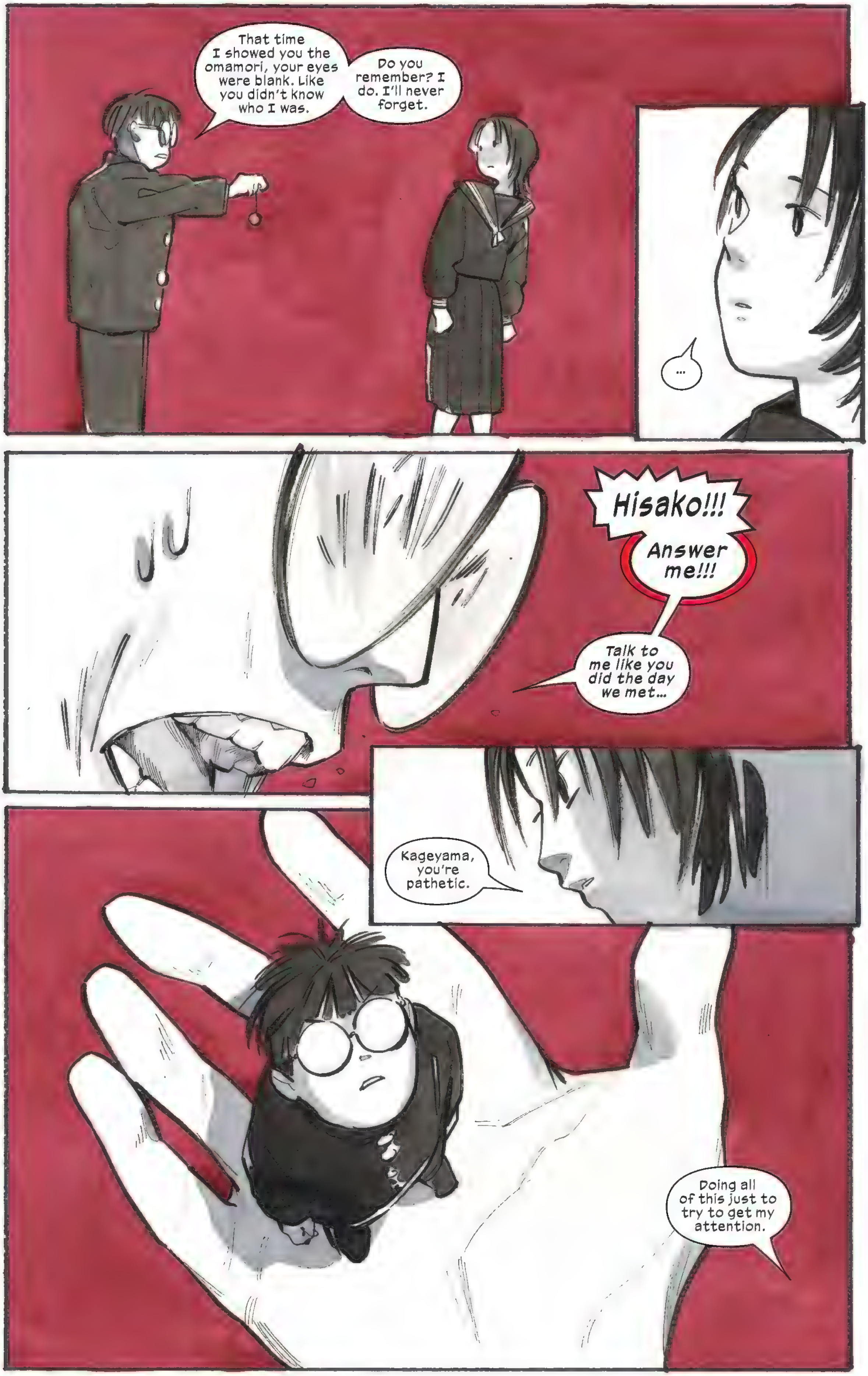
NOVEMBER 2025

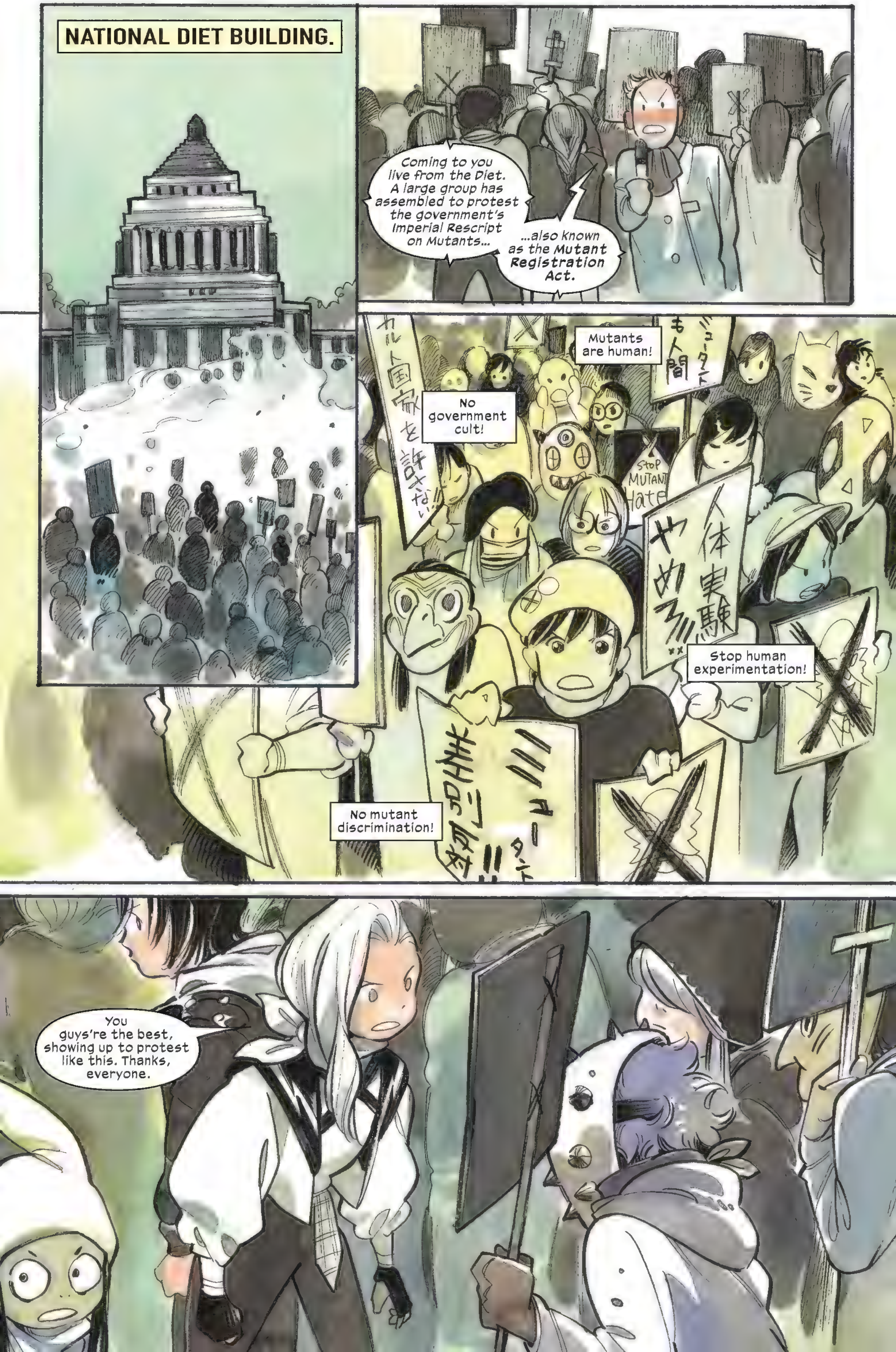

"Class...
"...we have a new student today."

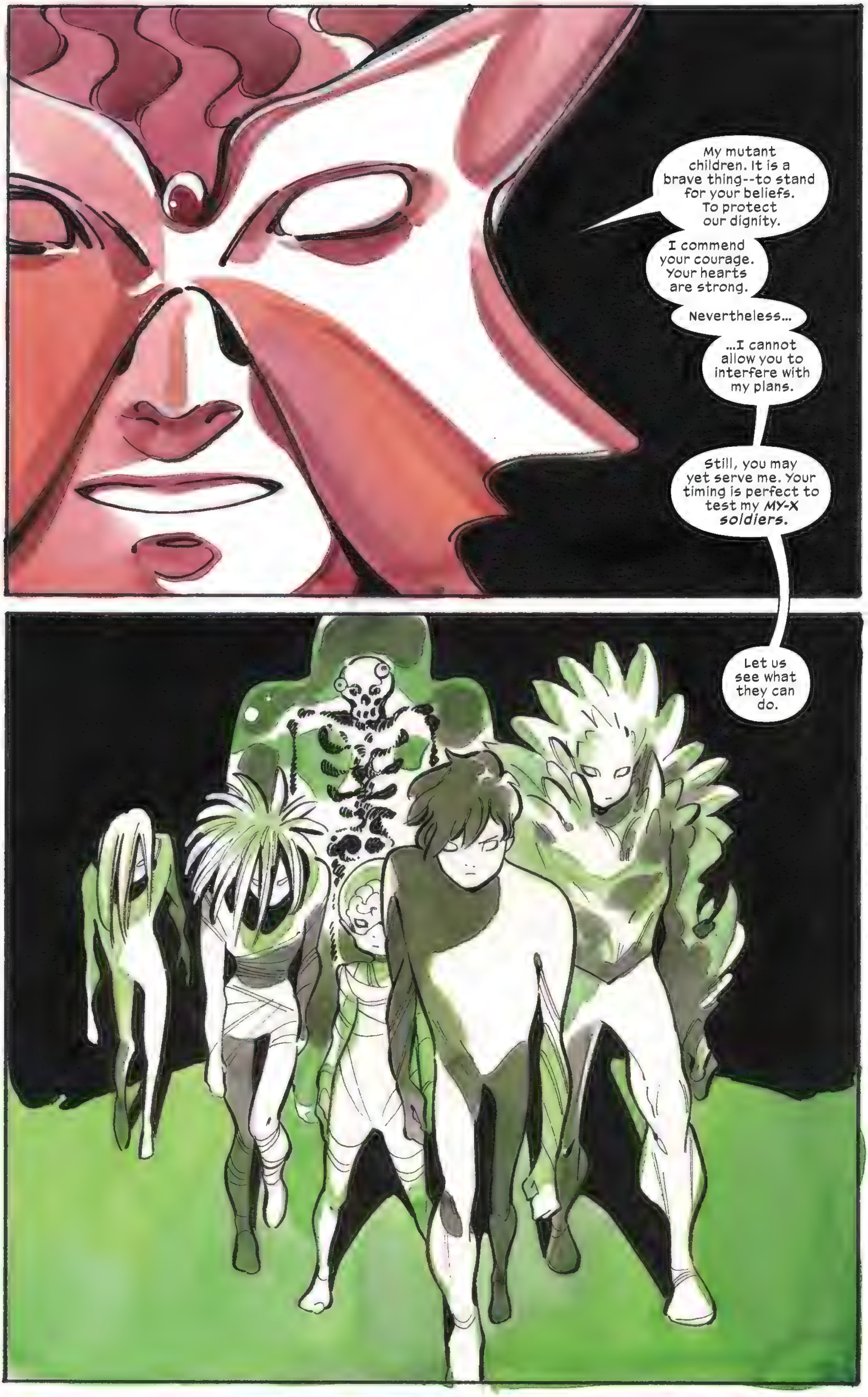

Shinobu Kageyama just moved here. Please give him a warm welcome as a new friend at Kirigaya Minami Middle School.
Shinobu Kageyama
Last night's episode? Total meh...
Life sucks.
--still hasn't answered? Forget that jerk!
Line shows the message read, but he--
Detention? You serious?!
I hate this.
I hate this.
heck out that new kid--what a tool.
Hey, Tsubasa! Looks like you can finally make a friend!
Anywhere I go...it's the same.
Same words.
Same clothes.
Same faces.
Only the place changes.
You know I can destroy your lives any time I want to?

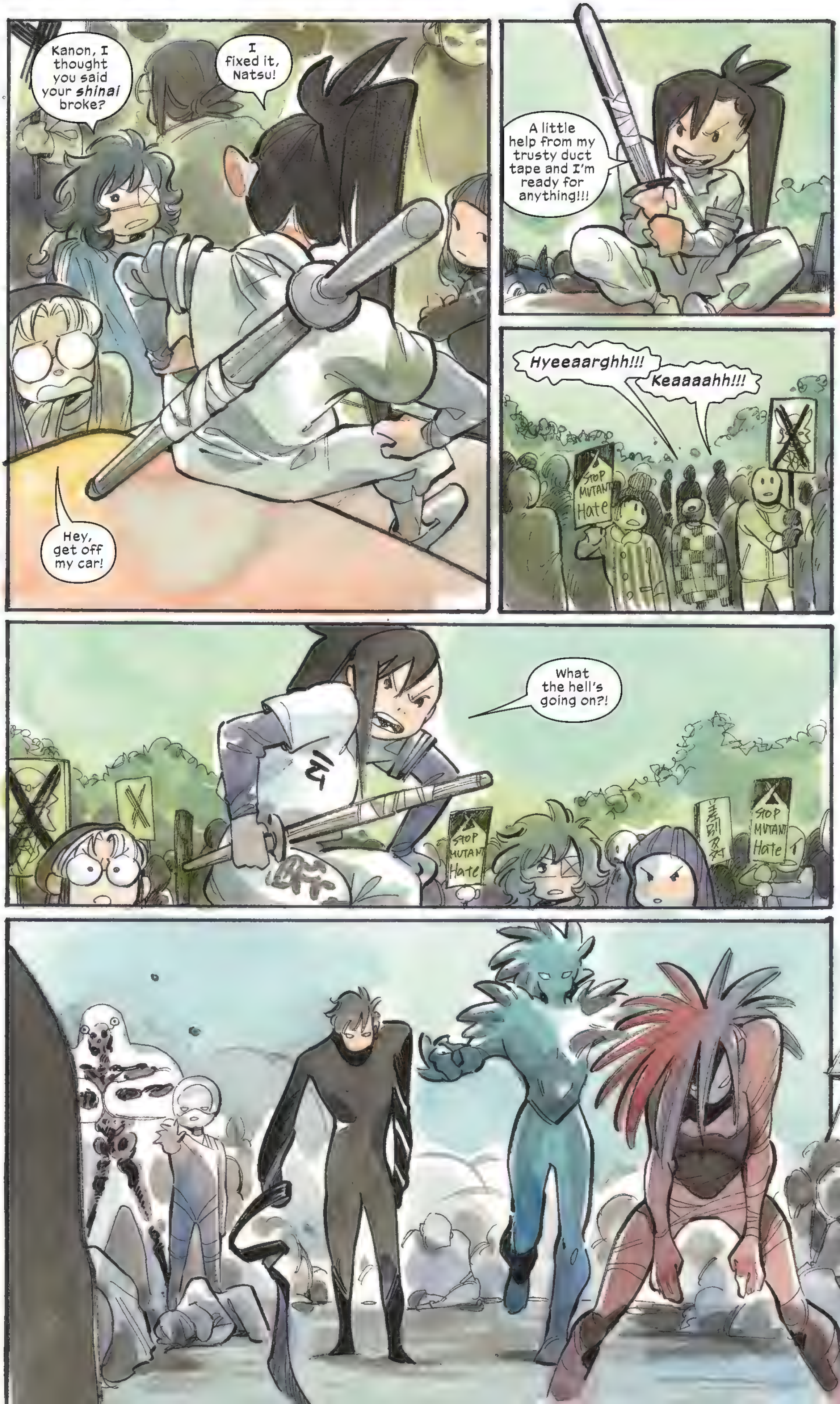

Has it been two weeks already...?
I only want to be left alone in peace...
Oh, hey! I read that book! Do you like horror too?
Ugh... why is she talking to me?
Um... yes...
Did you know they banned that series because it was too scary? I have the full set, though.
That's... interesting. I didn't know.
Who is this person? I can't read her thoughts...
If you wanna borrow the next volume, let me know!
Um...
Hisako, look at you! Always trying to be *sooo friendly...*
He obviously doesn't want to talk to anyone.
Come on, guys. It's not like that.

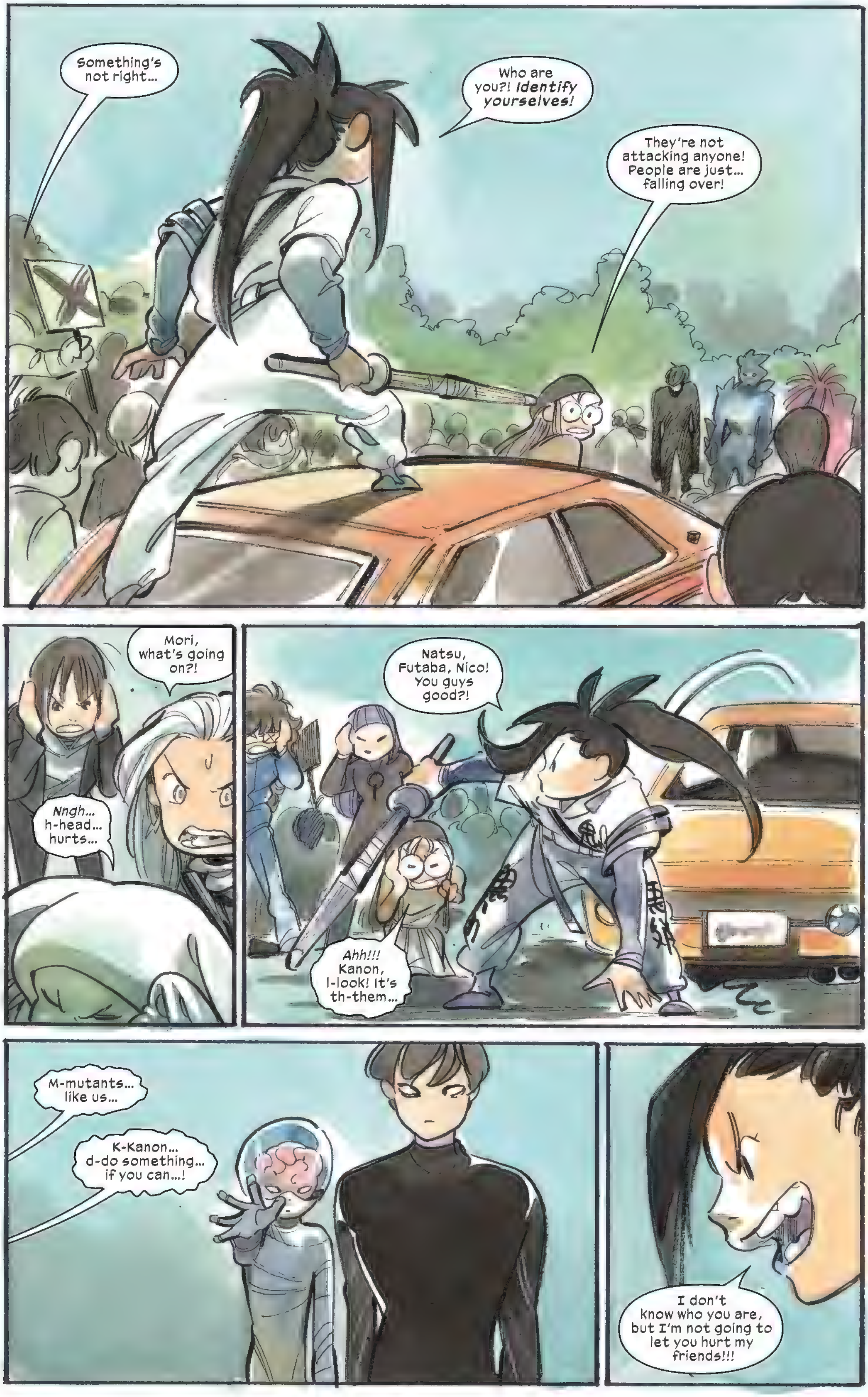

Kageyama...
Did you think I needed you? That I was lonely?
You always tried to talk to me.
Out of kindness? Or pity?
You...
You are the only person I cannot read.
...

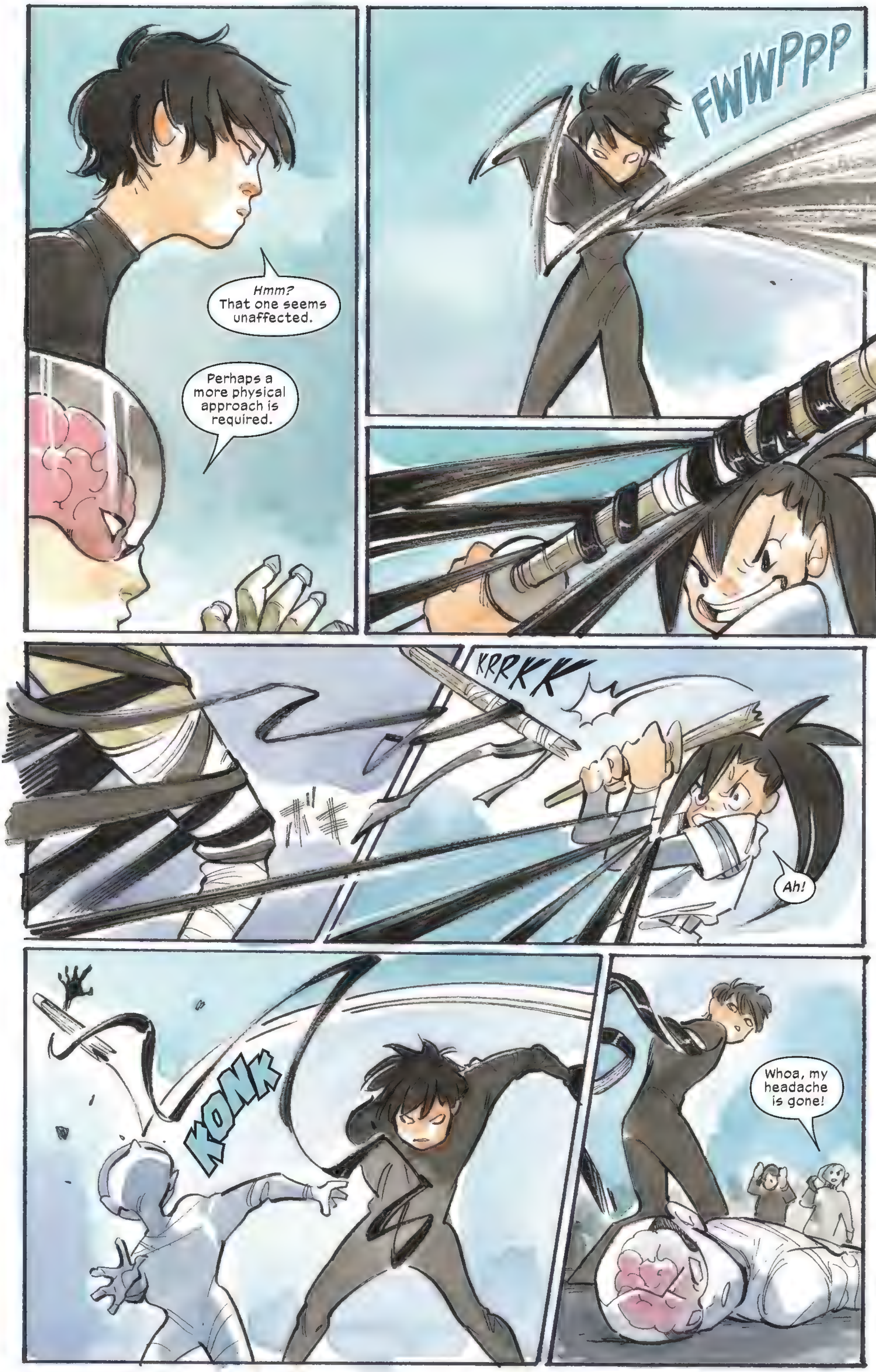

That time I showed you the omamori, your eyes were blank. Like you didn't know who I was.
Do you remember? I do. I'll never forget.
...
Hisako!!!
Answer me!!!
Talk to me like you did the day we met...
Kageyama, you're pathetic.
Doing all of this just to try to get my attention.

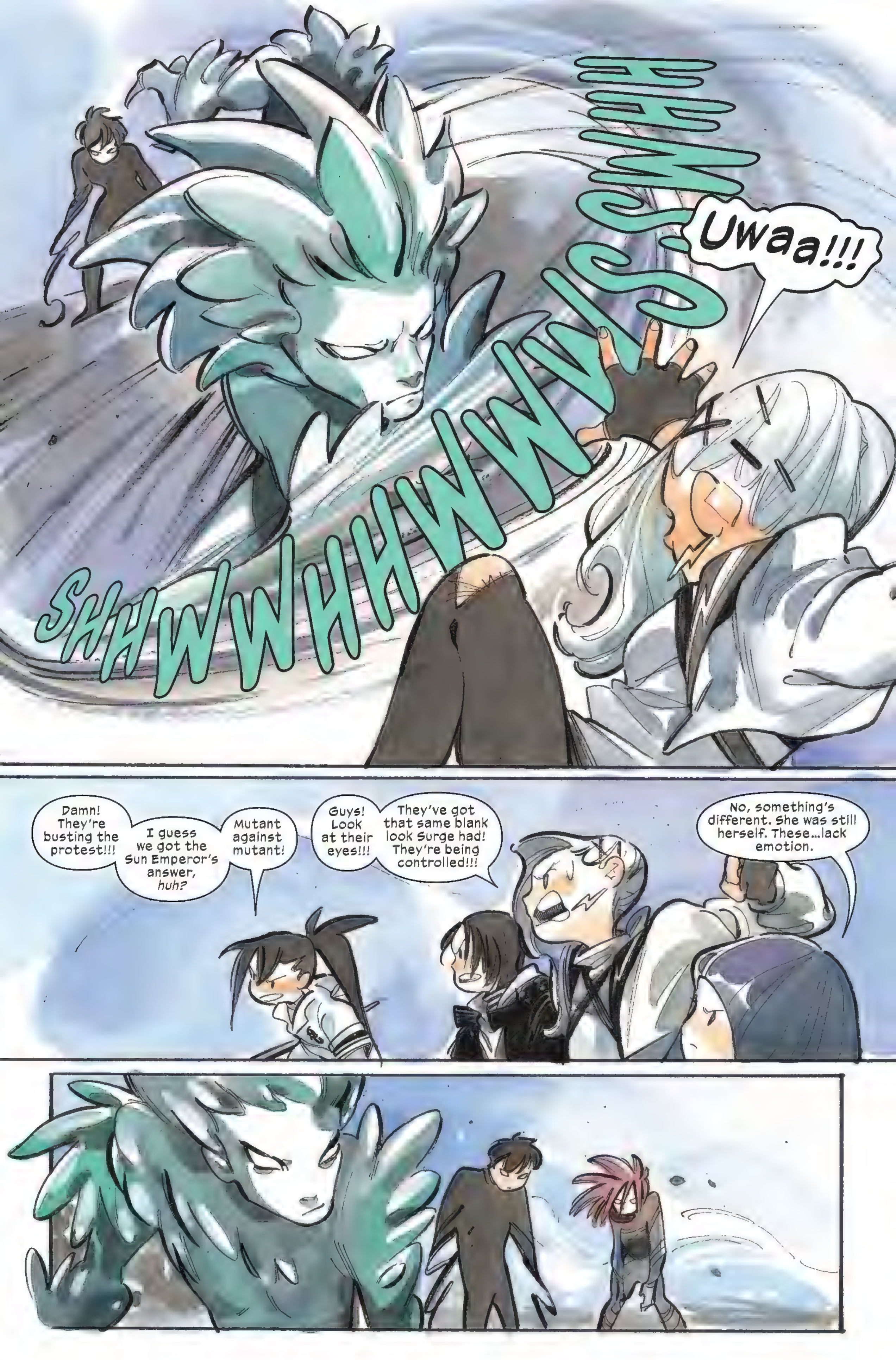

NATIONAL DIET BUILDING.
Coming to you live from the Diet. A large group has assembled to protest the government's Imperial Rescript on Mutants...
...also known as the Mutant Registration Act.
カルト国家を許さない!!
No government cult!
Mutants are human!
ミュータントも人間
STOP MUTANT Hate
人体実験やめろ!!!
Stop human experimentation!
ミュータント差別反対!!
No mutant discrimination!
You guys're the best, showing up to protest like this. Thanks, everyone.

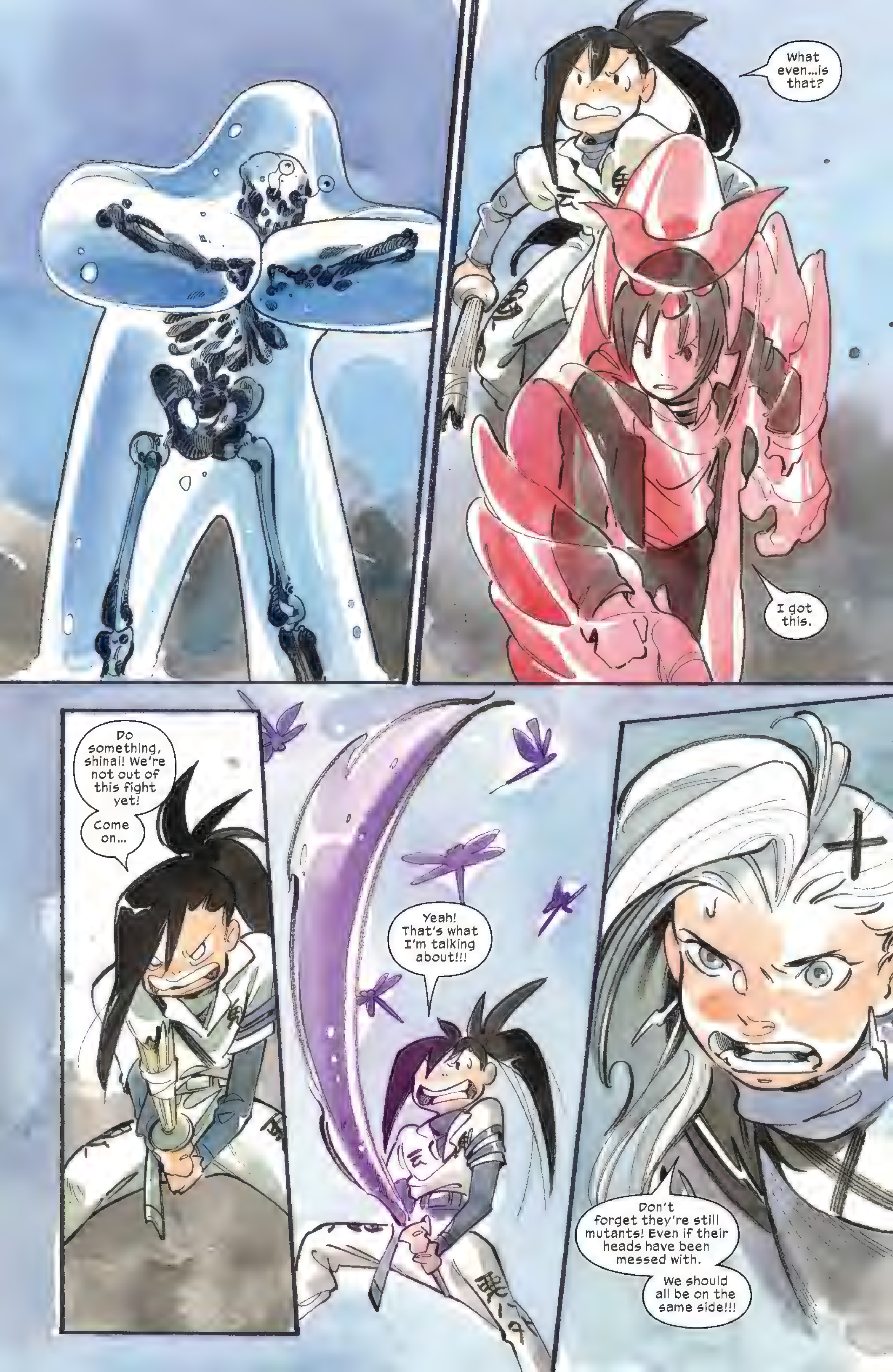

My mutant children. It is a brave thing--to stand for your beliefs. To protect our dignity.
I commend your courage. Your hearts are strong.
Nevertheless...
...I cannot allow you to interfere with my plans.
Still, you may yet serve me. Your timing is perfect to test my *MY-X soldiers.*
Let us see what they can do.

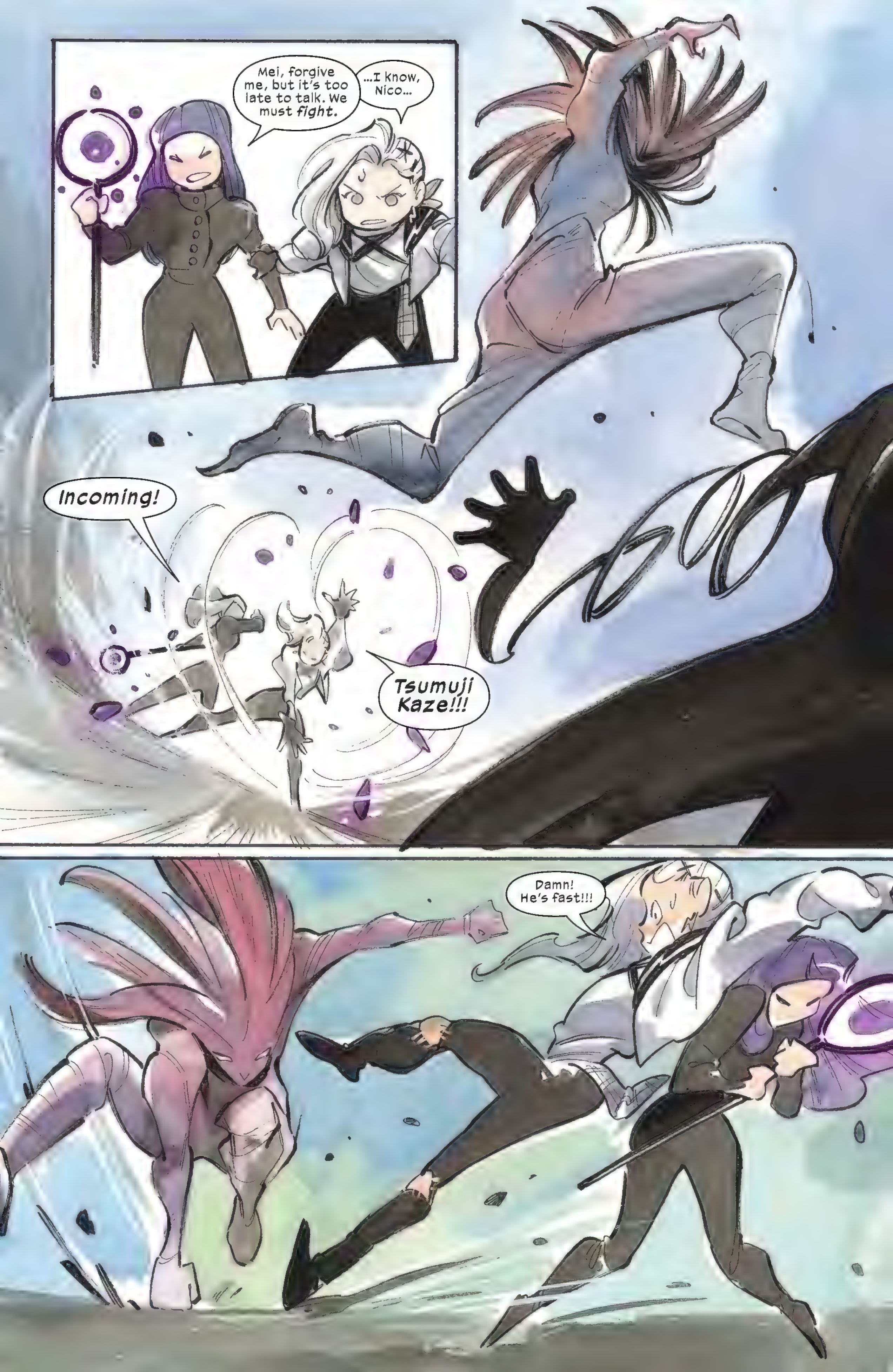

Kanon, I thought you said your *shinai* broke?
I fixed it, Natsu!
Hey, get off my car!
A little help from my trusty duct tape and I'm ready for anything!!!
Hyeeaarghh!!!
Keaaaaahh!!!
STOP MUTANT Hate
What the hell's going on?!
STOP MUTANT Hate
差別反対
STOP MUTANT Hate

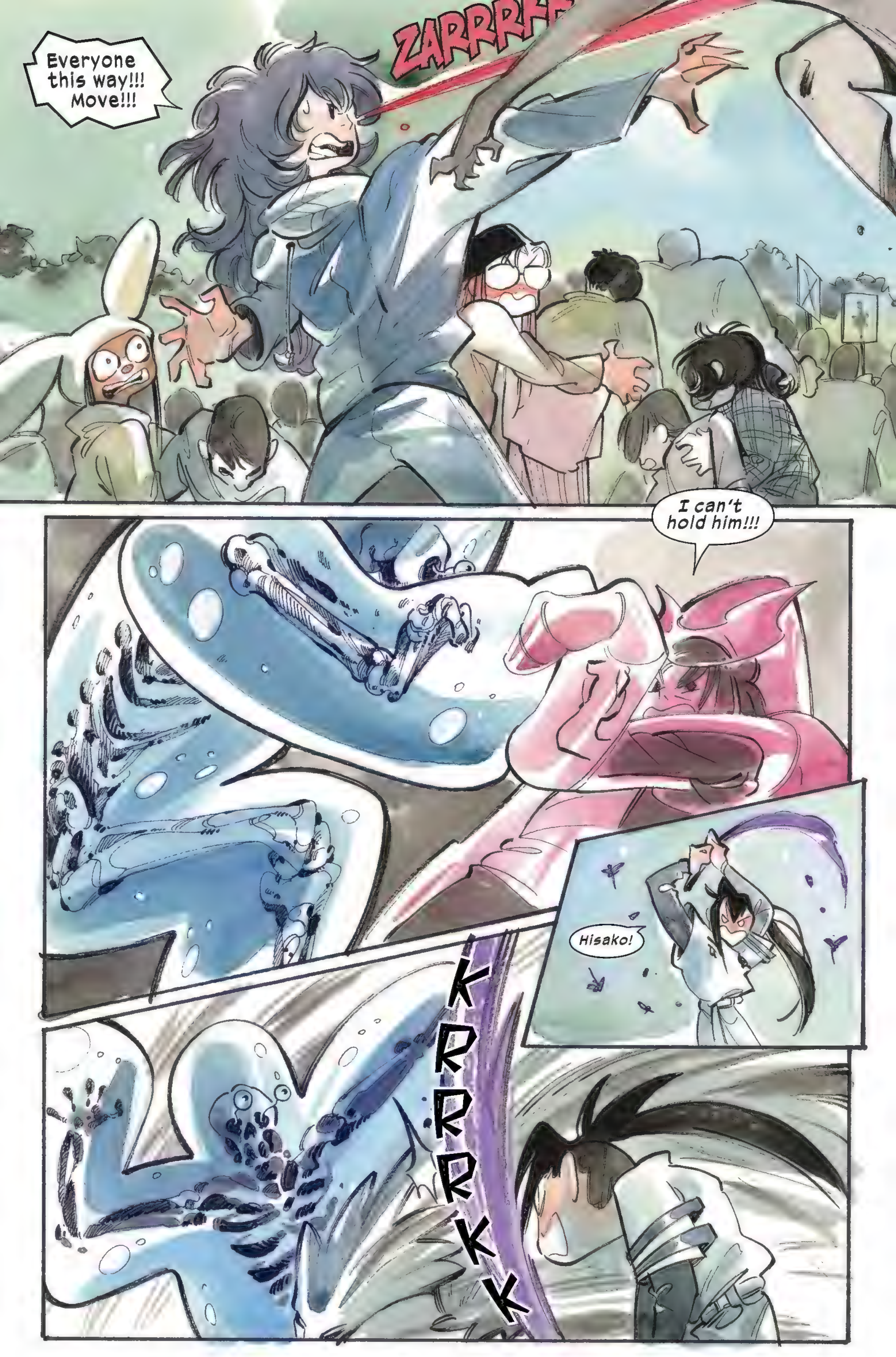

Something's not right...
Who are you?! *Identify yourselves!*
They're not attacking anyone! People are just... falling over!
Mori, what's going on?!
Nngh... h-head... hurts...
Natsu, Futaba, Nico! You guys good?!
Ahh!!! Kanon, l-look! It's th-them...
M-mutants... like us...
K-Kanon... d-do something... if you can...!
I don't know who you are, but I'm not going to let you hurt my friends!!!

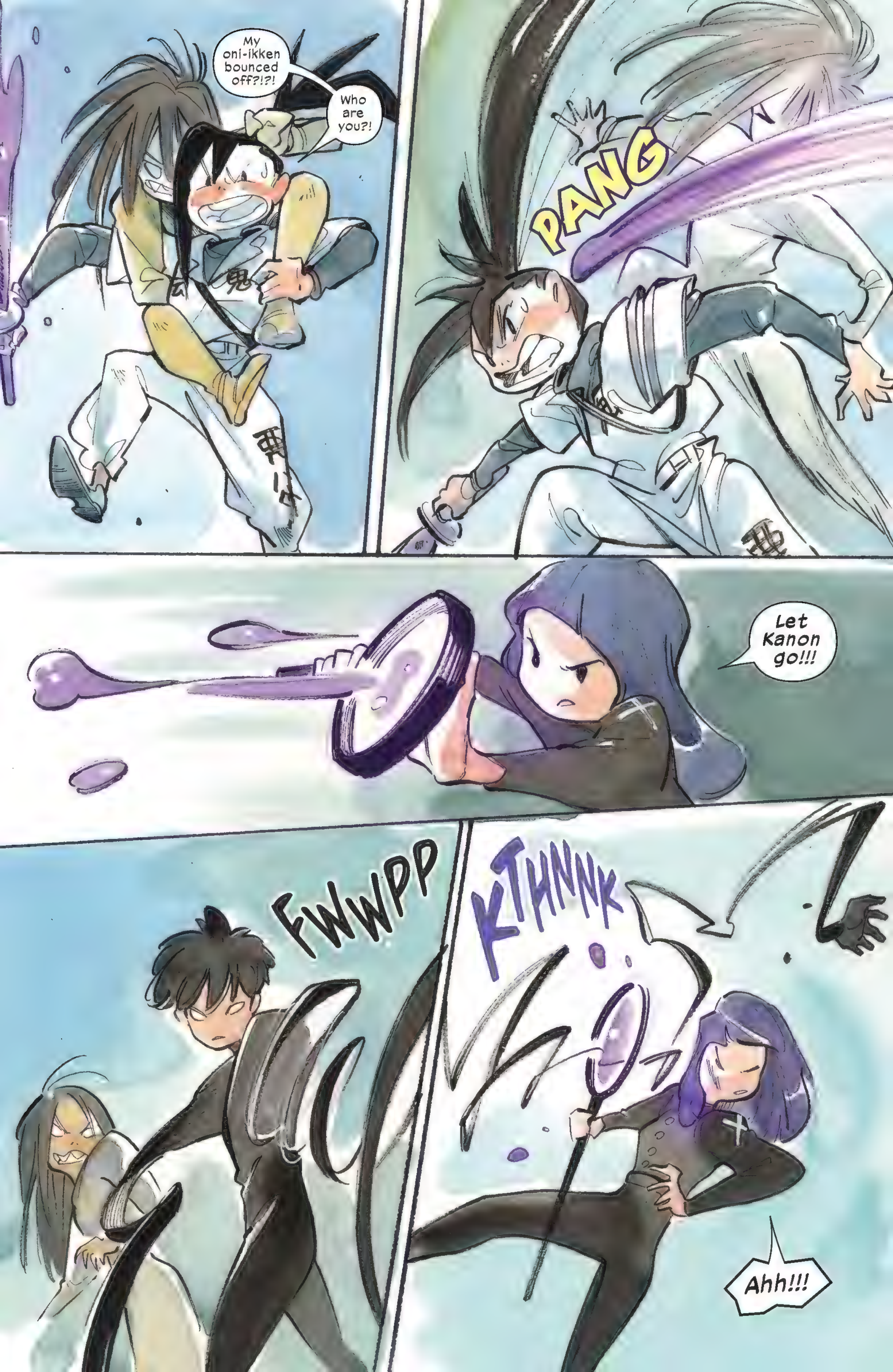

Hmm? That one seems unaffected.
Perhaps a more physical approach is required.
FWWPPP
KRRKK
ボキ
Ah!
KONK
Whoa, my headache is gone!

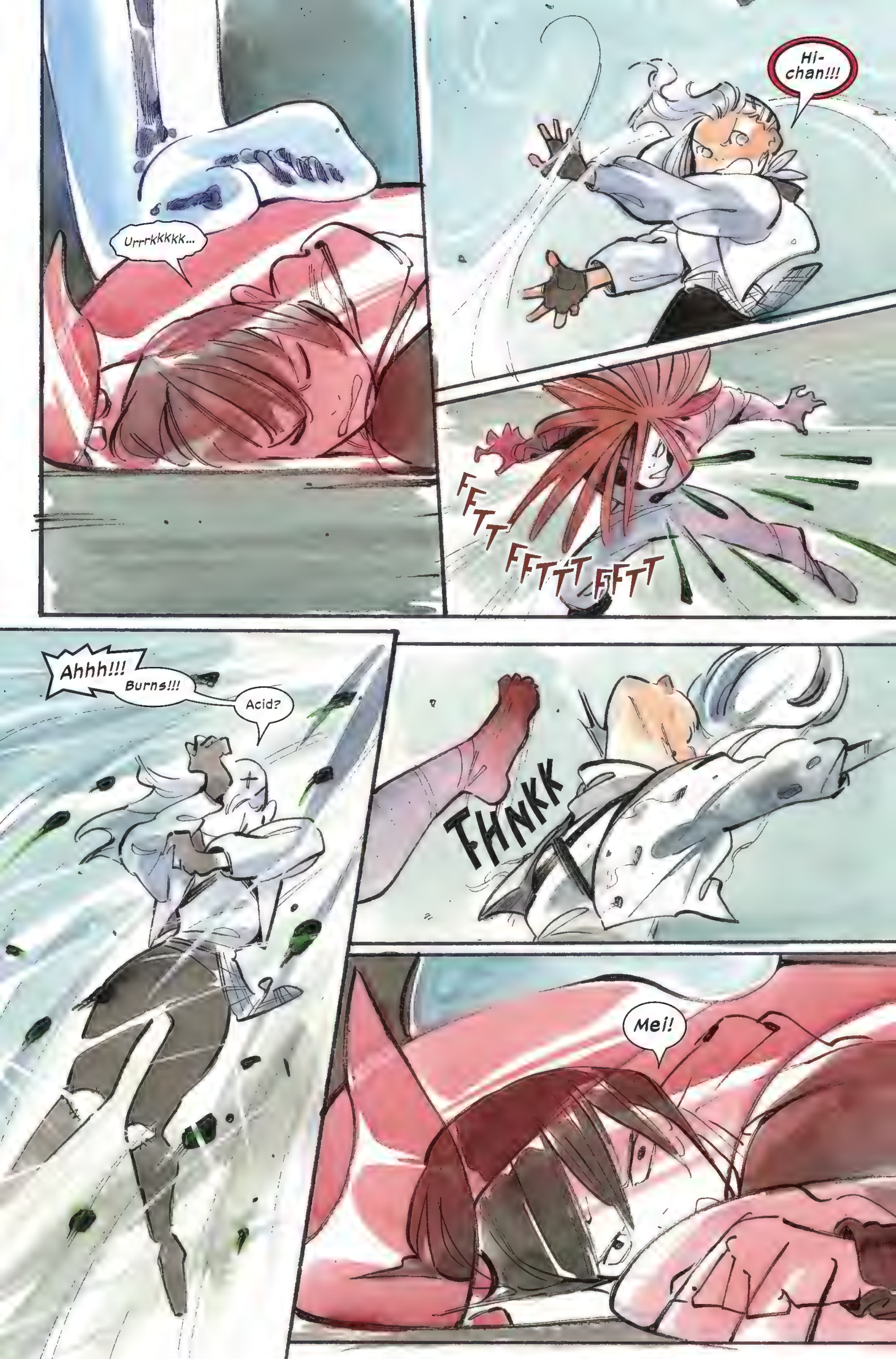

SHHWWWHHHWWWWSWSWHH
Uwaa!!!
Damn! They're busting the protest!!!
I guess we got the Sun Emperor's answer, *huh?*
Mutant against mutant!
Guys! Look at their eyes!!!
They've got that same blank look Surge had! They're being controlled!!!
No, something's different. She was still herself. These...lack emotion.

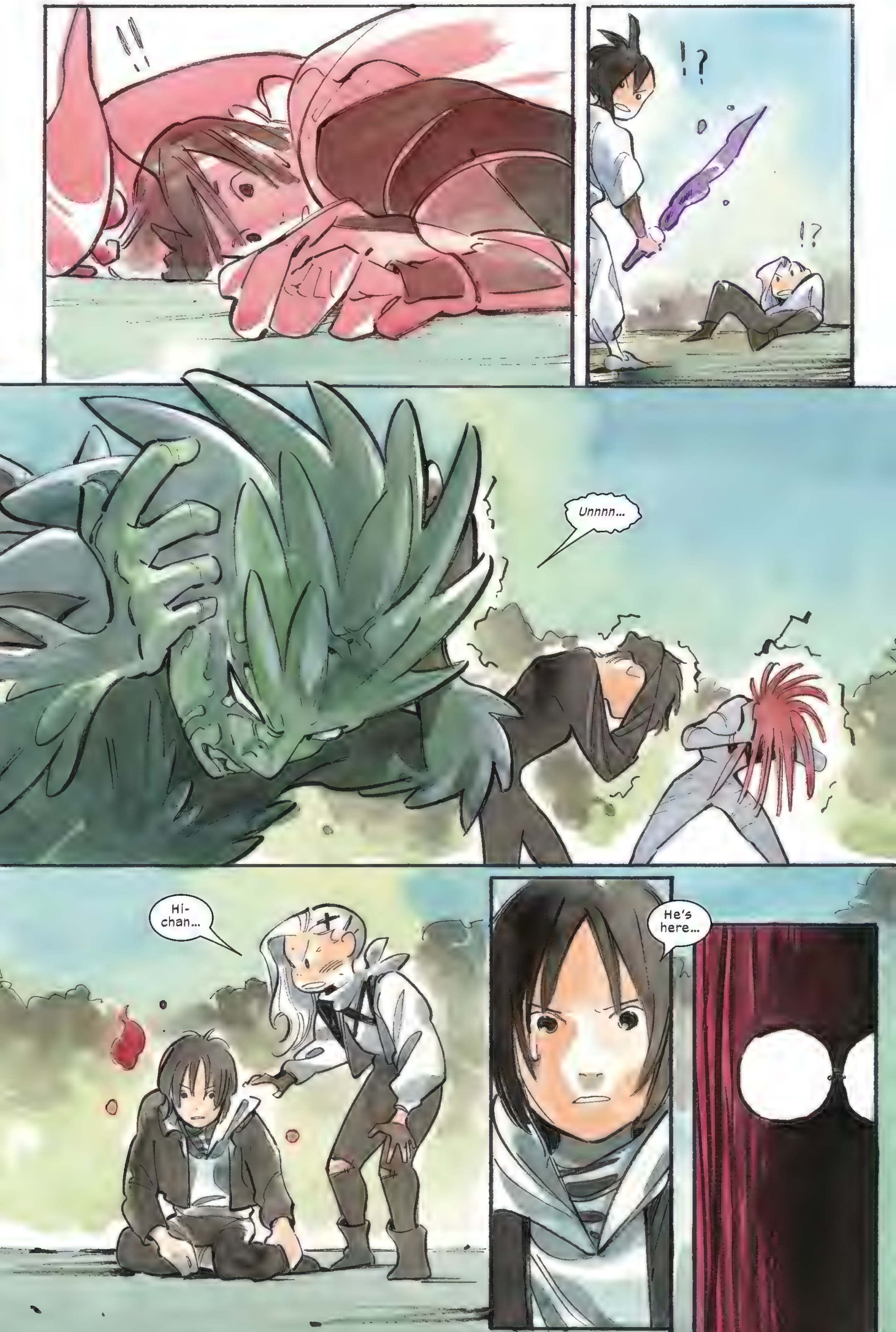

What even...is that?
I got this.
Do something, shinai! We're not out of this fight yet!
Come on...
Yeah! That's what I'm talking about!!!
Don't forget they're still mutants! Even if their heads have been messed with.
We should all be on the same side!!!

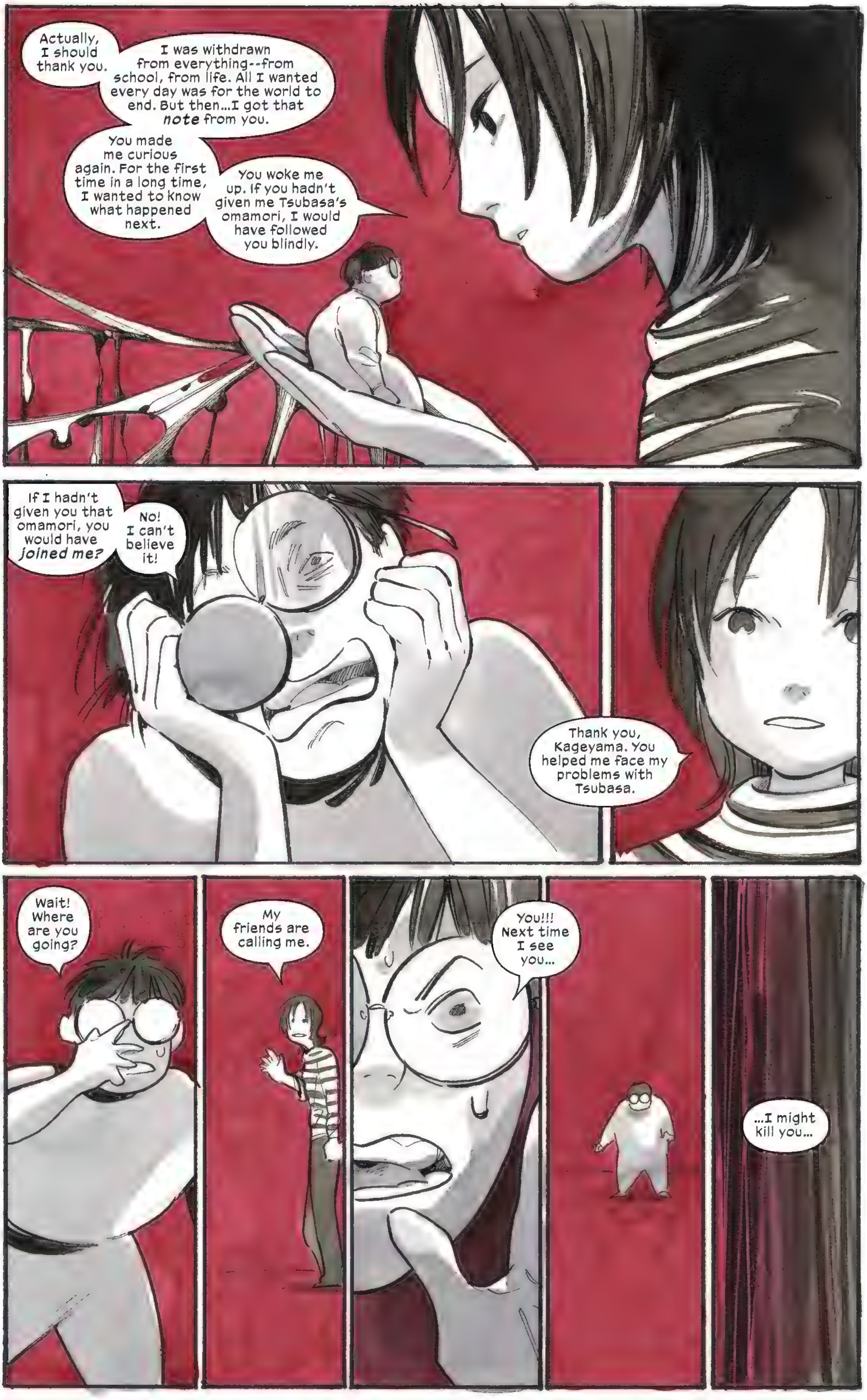

Mei, forgive me, but it's too late to talk. We must *fight.*
...I know, Nico...
Incoming!
Tsumuji Kaze!!!
Damn! He's fast!!!

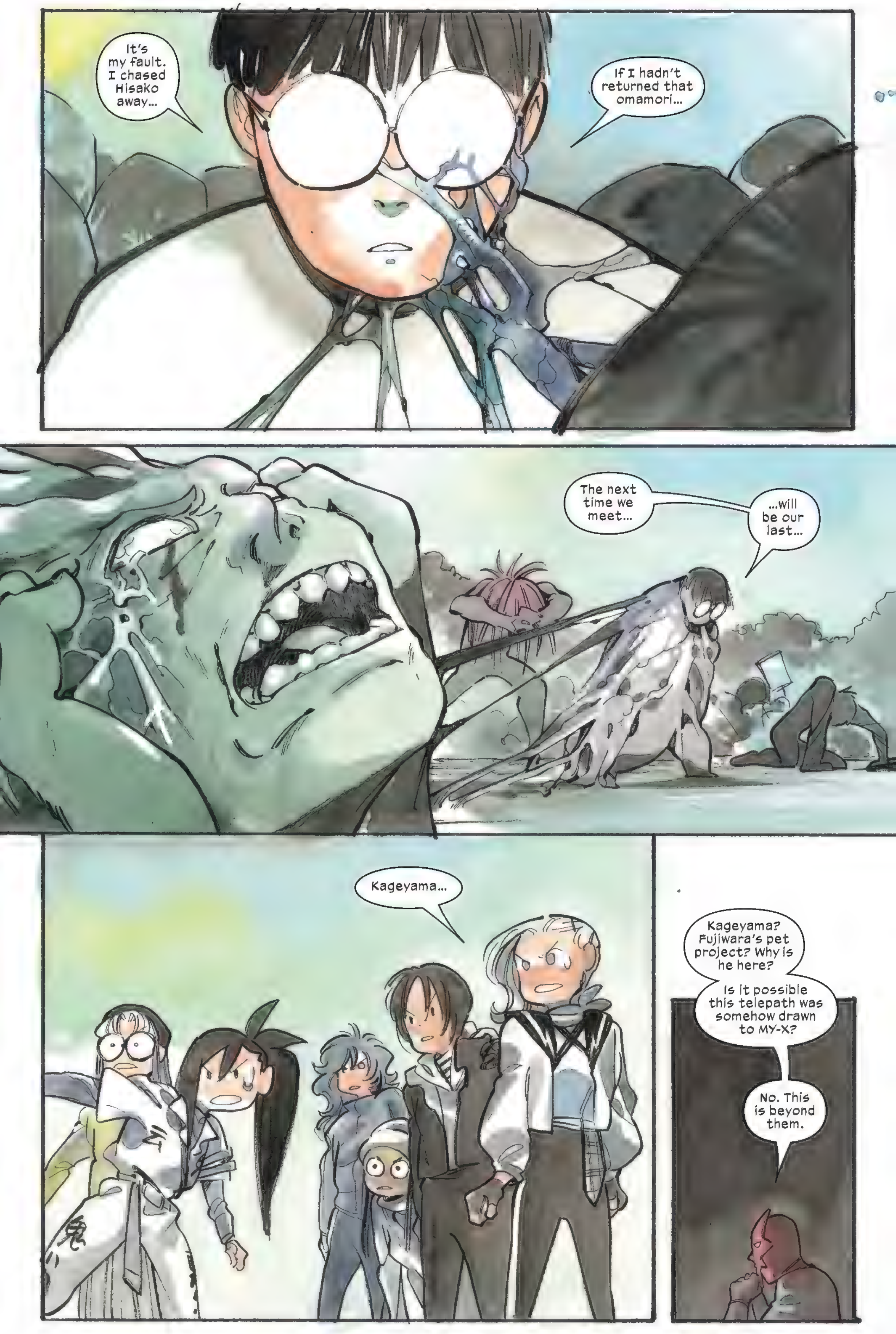

ZARRRF
Everyone this way!!! Move!!!
I can't hold him!!!
Hisako!
KRRRKK

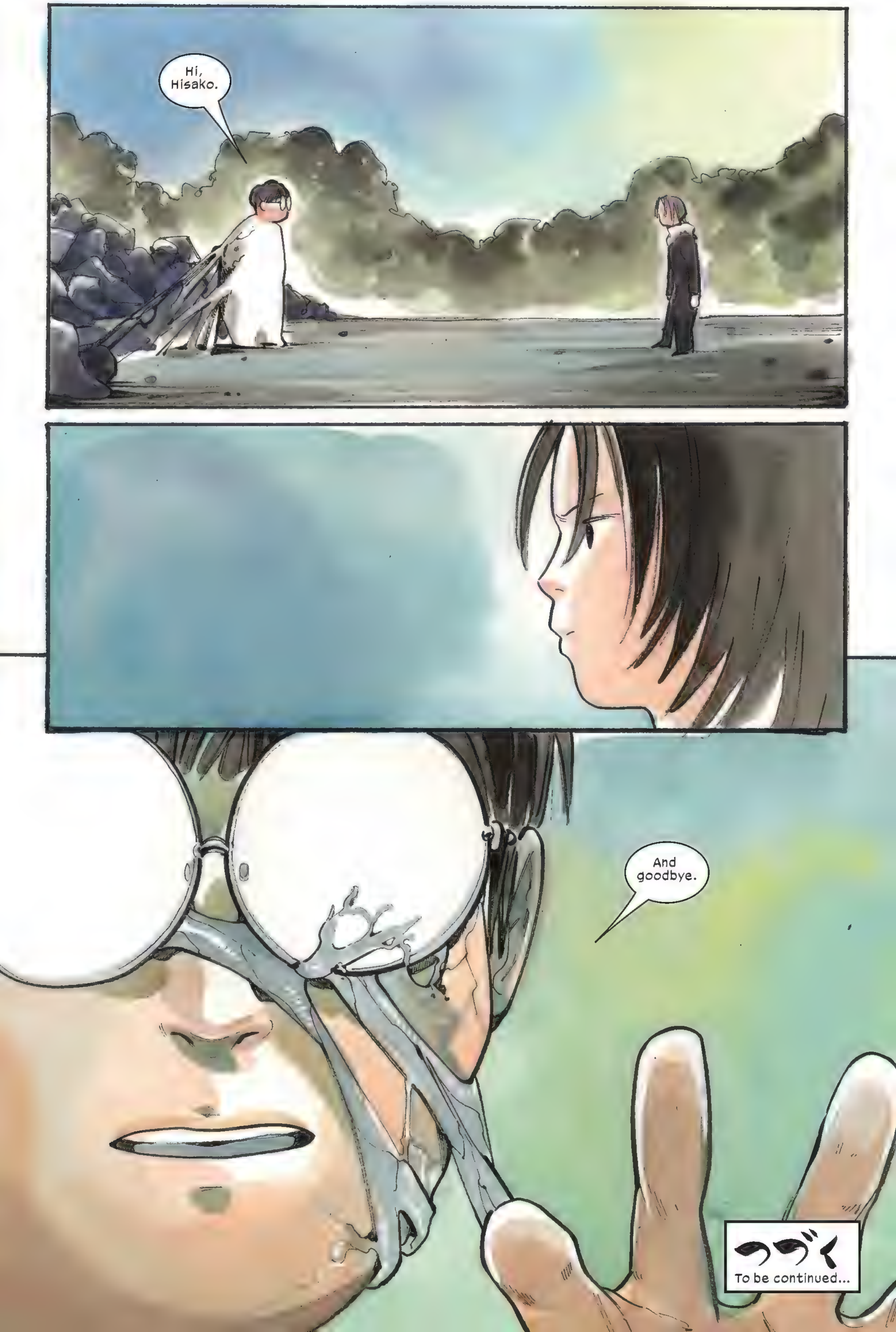

My oni-ikken bounced off?!?!
Who are you?!
PANG
Let Kanon go!!!
FWWPP
KTHNNK
Ahh!!!


Urrrkkkkk...
Hi-chan!!!
FFTT FFTTTT FFTT
Ahhh!!! Burns!!!
Acid?
THNKK
Mei!


!!
!?
!?
Unnnn...
Hi-chan...
He's here...

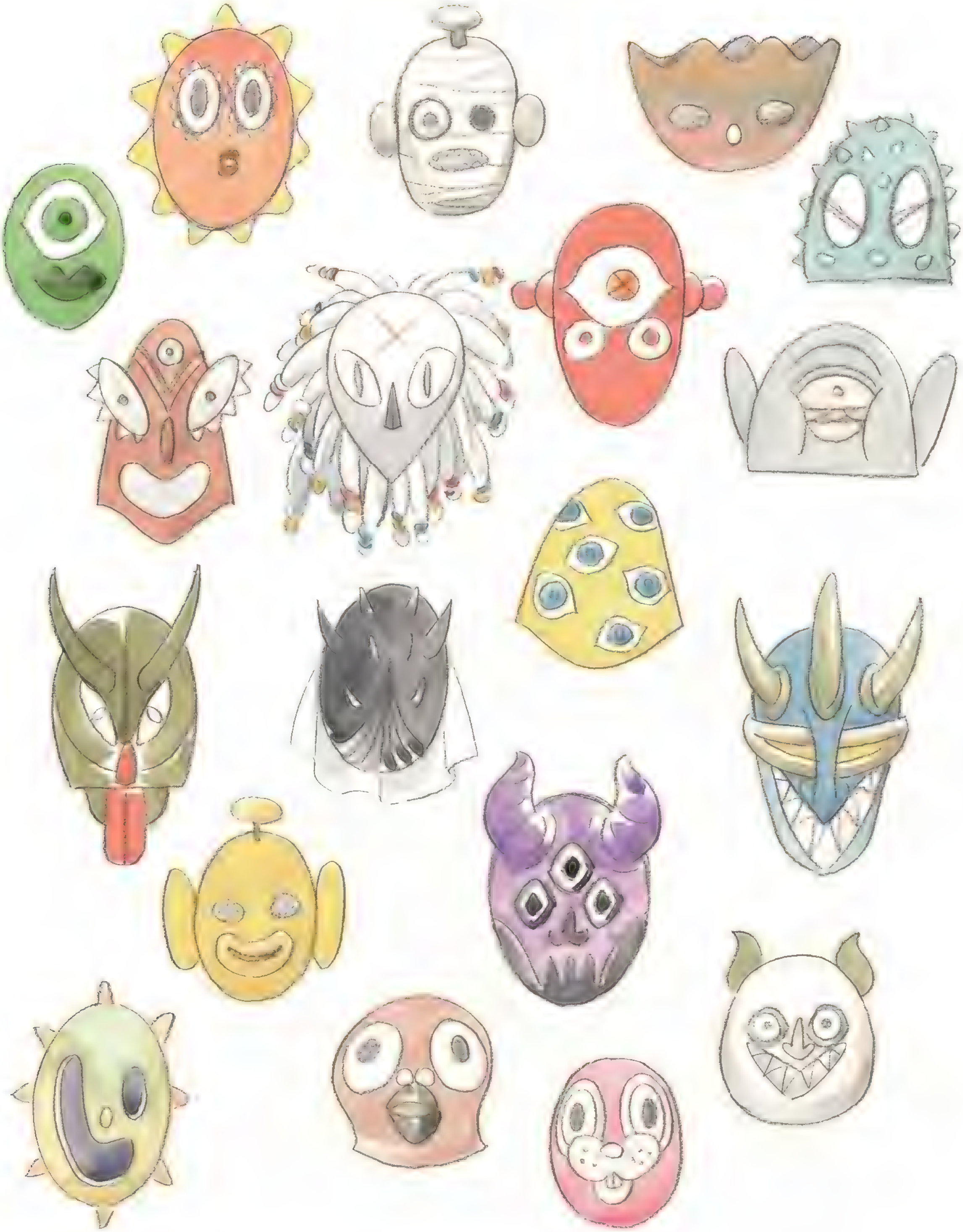

Actually, I should thank you.
I was withdrawn from everything--from school, from life. All I wanted every day was for the world to end. But then...I got that *note* from you.
You made me curious again. For the first time in a long time, I wanted to know what happened next.
You woke me up. If you hadn't given me Tsubasa's omamori, I would have followed you blindly.
If I hadn't given you that omamori, you would have *joined me?*
No! I can't believe it!
Thank you, Kageyama. You helped me face my problems with Tsubasa.
Wait! Where are you going?
My friends are calling me.
You!!! Next time I see you...
...I might kill you...


It's my fault. I chased Hisako away...
If I hadn't returned that omamori...
The next time we meet...
...will be our last...
Kageyama...
Kageyama? Fujiwara's pet project? Why is he here?
Is it possible this telepath was somehow drawn to MY-X?
No. This is beyond them.


Hi, Hisako.
And goodbye.
つづく
To be continued...

LEXICON

MASKS OF THE X-MEN



WRITER & ARTIST: **PEACH MOMOKO**

SCRIPT ADAPTATION: **ZACK DAVISSON**
LETTERER: **VC's TRAVIS LANHAM**

COVER ARTIST: **PEACH MOMOKO**

VARIANT
COVER ARTISTS: **AKA; PEACH MOMOKO;**
KAE TANAKA

DESIGN: **JAY BOWEN & KAT WALKINGTON**
ASSISTANT EDITOR: **MICHELLE MARCHESE**
EDITOR: **WIL MOSS**
EDITOR IN CHIEF: **C.B. CEBULSKI**

X-MEN CREATED BY **STAN LEE** & **JACK KIRBY**

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NEXT

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ULTIMATE
X-MEN
PEACH MOMOKO

ON SALE IN **DECEMBER**

ON SALE THIS MONTH

MARVEL
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ULTIMATE
SPIDER-MAN

ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN #23

BY **JONATHAN HICKMAN**,
MARCO CHECCHETTO & **DAVID MESSINA**

MARVEL
22
ULTIMATE
BLACK PANTHER

ULTIMATE BLACK PANTHER #22

BY **BRYAN HILL** &
CARLOS NIETO

MARVEL
18
THE
ULTIMATES

ULTIMATES #18

BY **DENIZ CAMP**
& **JUAN FRIGERI**

MARVEL
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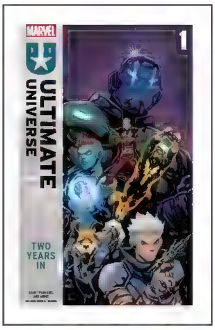
ULTIMATE
WOLVERINE

ULTIMATE WOLVERINE #11

BY **CHRIS CONDON** &
ALESSANDRO CAPPUCCIO

ON SALE NEXT MONTH


MARVEL
1
ULTIMATE
UNIVERSE
TWO
YEARS
IN

ULTIMATE UNIVERSE: TWO YEARS IN #1

BY **DENIZ CAMP**,
ALEX PAKNADEL & **MORE**

MARVEL
ULTIMATE
ENDGAME

ULTIMATE ENDGAME #1

BY **DENIZ CAMP**,
TERRY DODSON & **JONAS SCHARF**

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU! EMAIL US AT **ULTIMATEOFFICE@MARVEL.COM** AND MARK YOUR LETTERS **"OKAY TO PRINT"**!

18

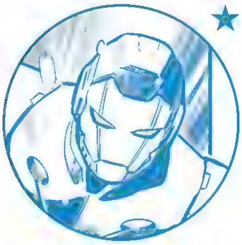
A diabolical genius known as **THE MAKER** used time travel to create his ideal Earth by systematically preventing anyone from ever becoming a super hero and by establishing a secret council of super villains, **THE MAKER'S COUNCIL**, that rules the world from the shadows.

But now the Maker is gone, locked away for the next month by inventor **HOWARD STARK**. Howard's teenage son, **TONY**, took on the codename **IRON LAD** and began recruiting a network of heroes to fight back against the Maker's Council and prepare for the Maker's return.

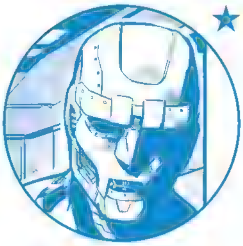
This network, called **THE ULTIMATES**, has grown exponentially since introducing their hyper-encrypted app **ULTNET**, through which they started recruiting civilians and bringing them into the resistance movement. But it's still not enough. And time has almost run out...

THE ULTIMATES

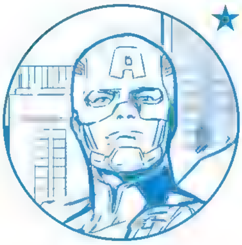
CAST:



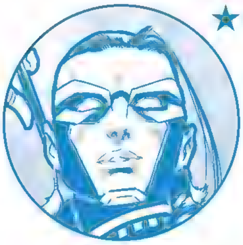
IRON LAD
TONY STARK



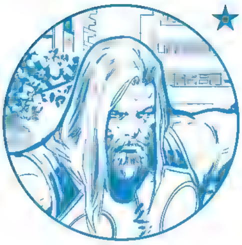
DOOM
REED RICHARDS



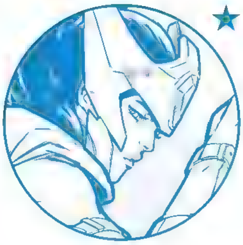
CAPTAIN AMERICA
STEVE ROGERS



HAWKEYE
CHARLI RAMSEY



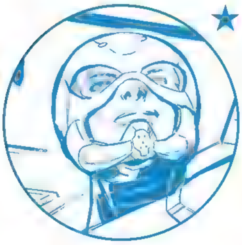
THOR
GOD OF THUNDER



SIF
WARRIOR GODDESS

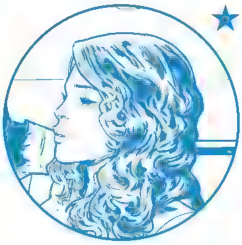
SHE-HULK
LEJORI JOENA ZAKARIA

LUKE CAGE
PRISON REVOLTER



GIANT-MAN
HANK PYM

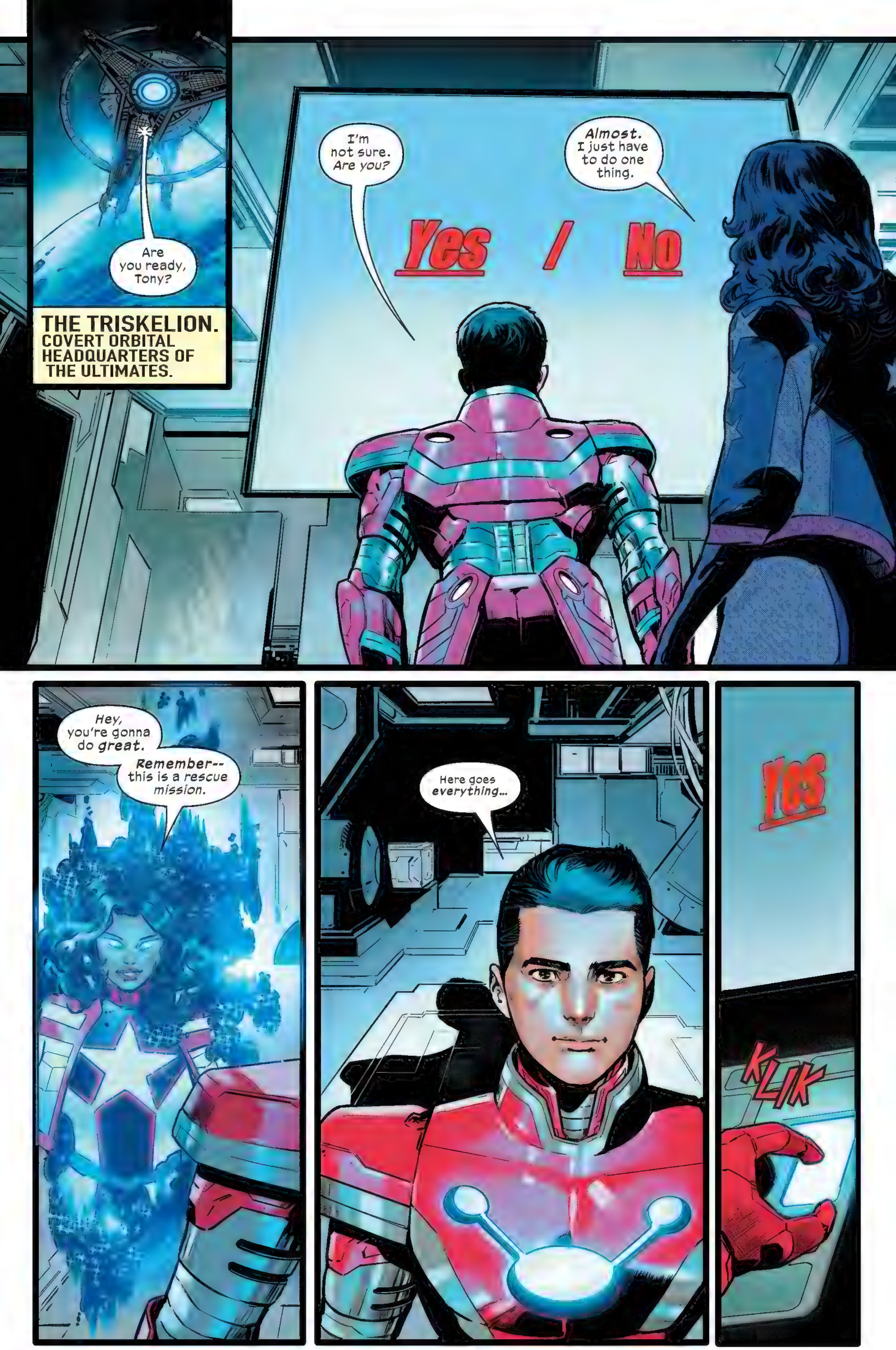
WASP
JANET VAN DYNE

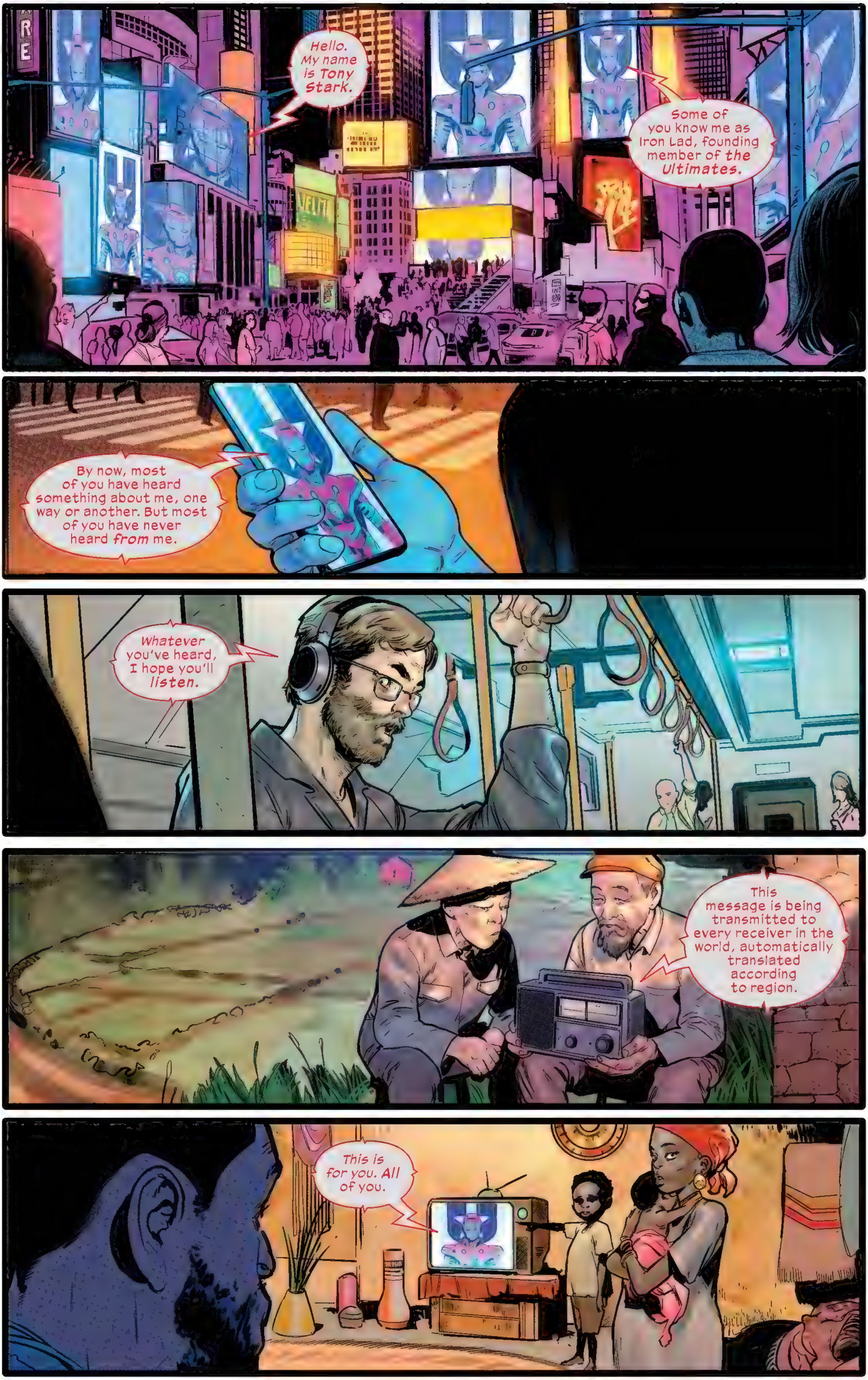


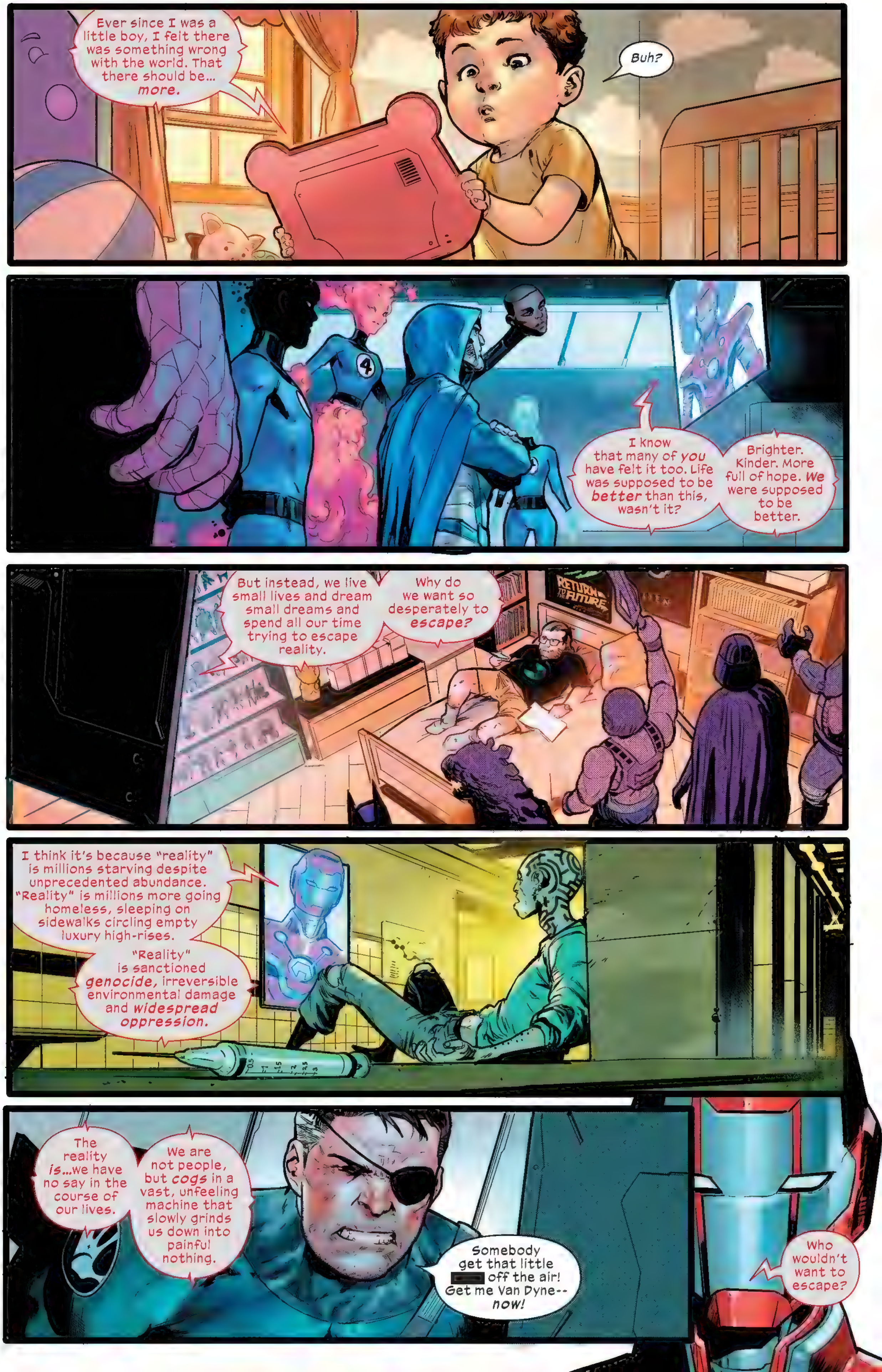
AMERICA CHAVEZ
COSMIC POWERHOUSE

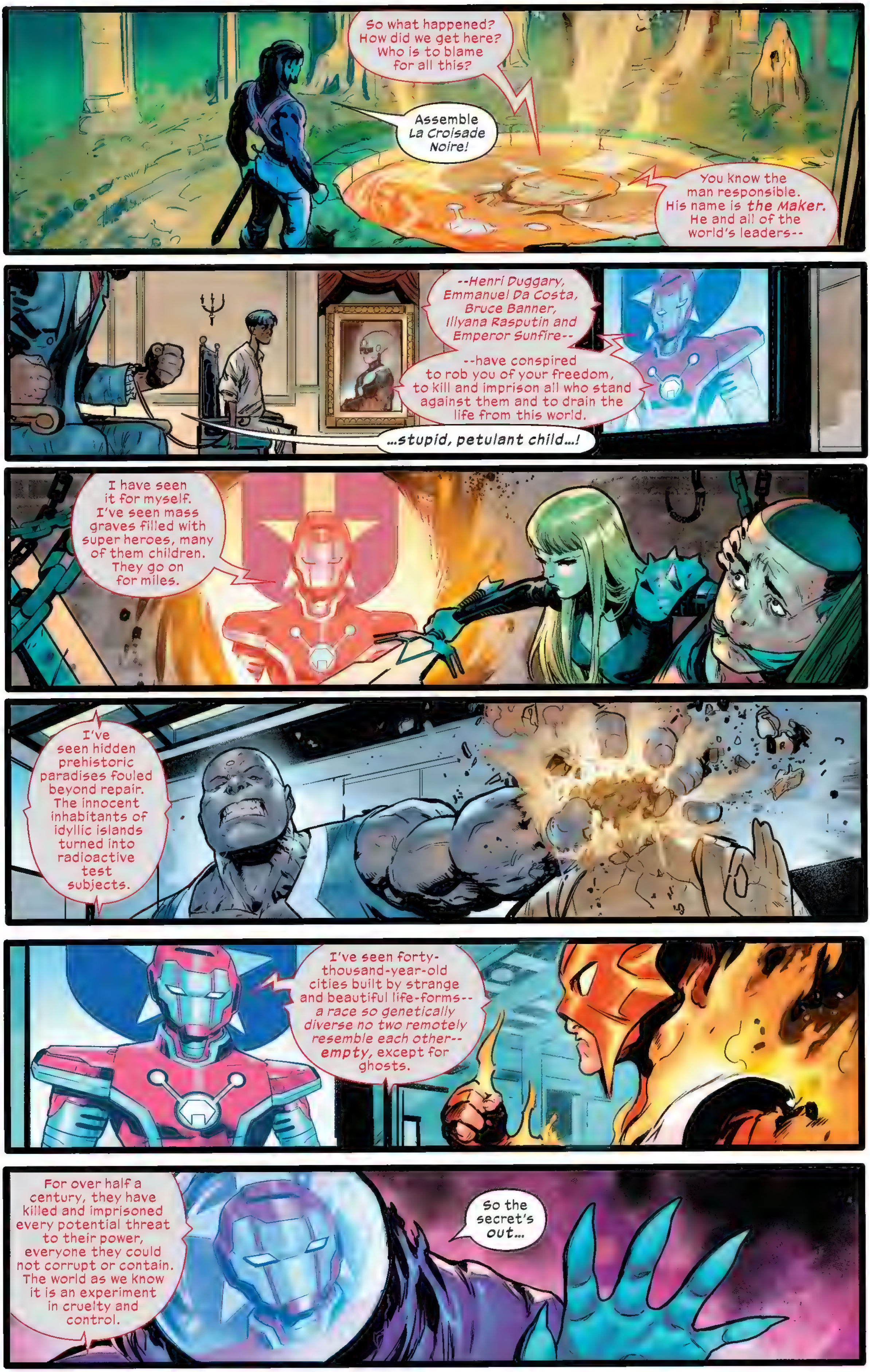
THE HUMAN TORCH
JIM HAMMOND

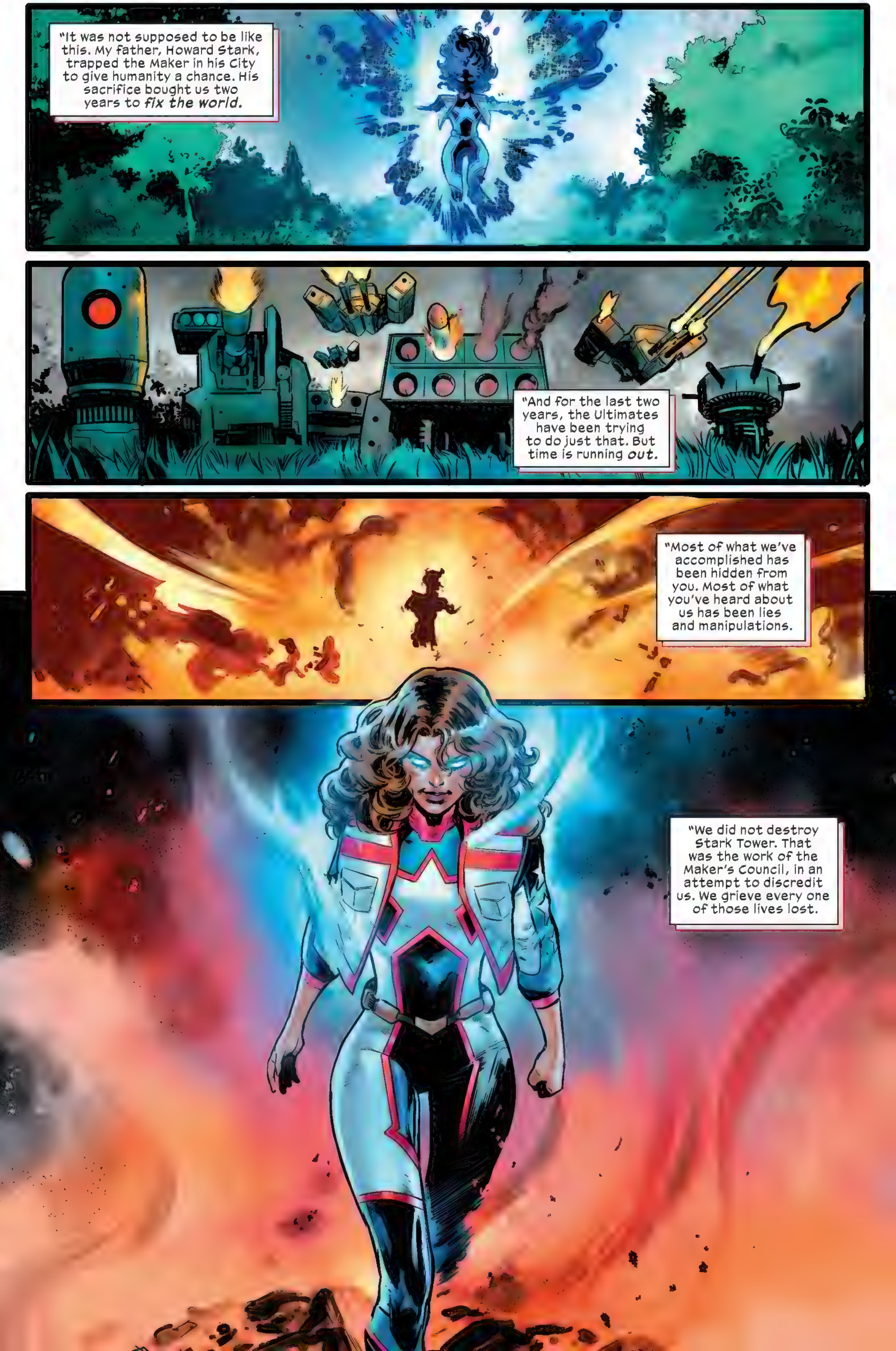
NOVEMBER 2025

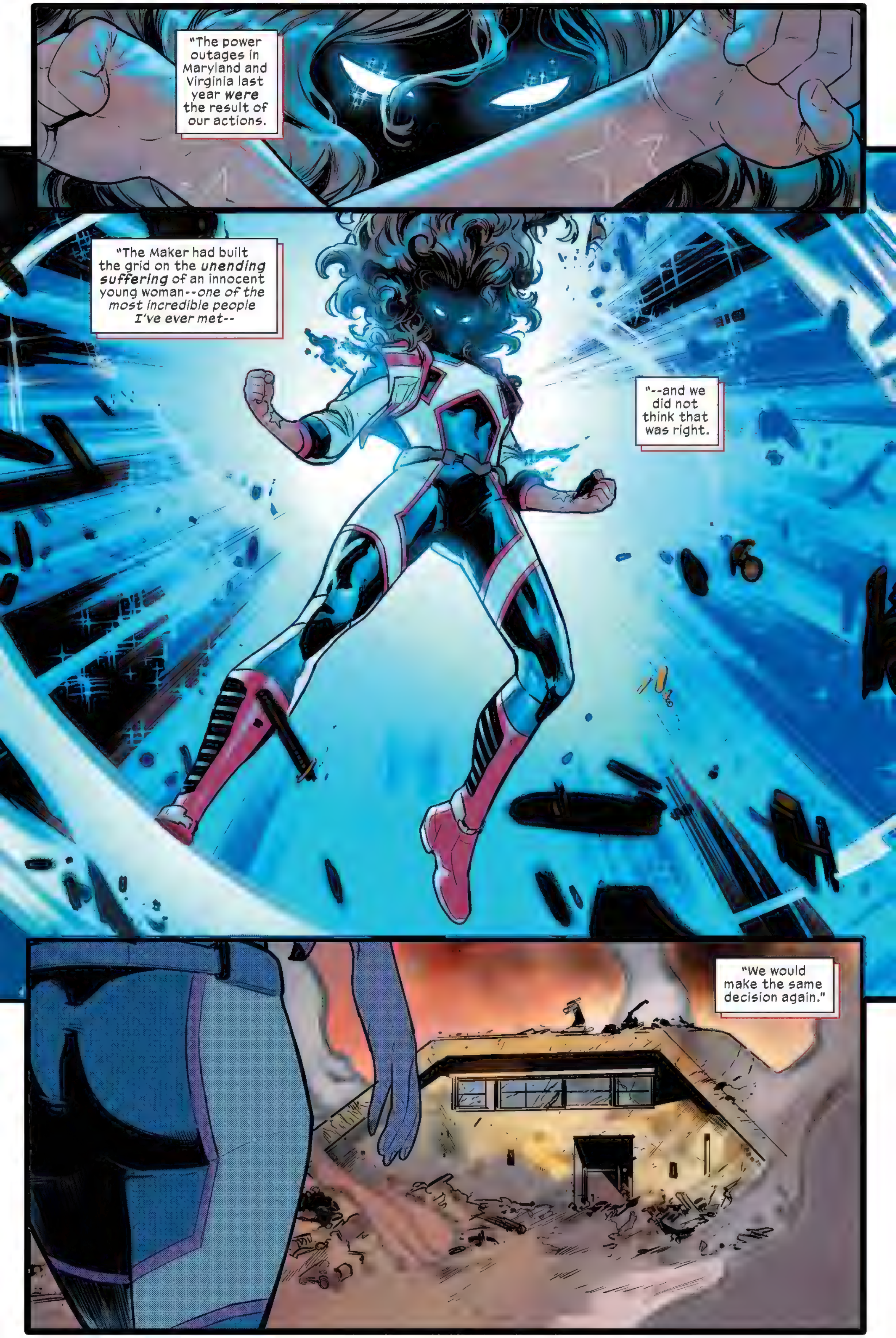

Are you ready, Tony?
THE TRISKELION. COVERT ORBITAL HEADQUARTERS OF THE ULTIMATES.
I'm not sure. Are you?
Yes / No
Almost. I just have to do one thing.
Hey, you're gonna do *great*.
Remember-- this is a rescue mission.
Here goes *everything...*
Yes
KLIK

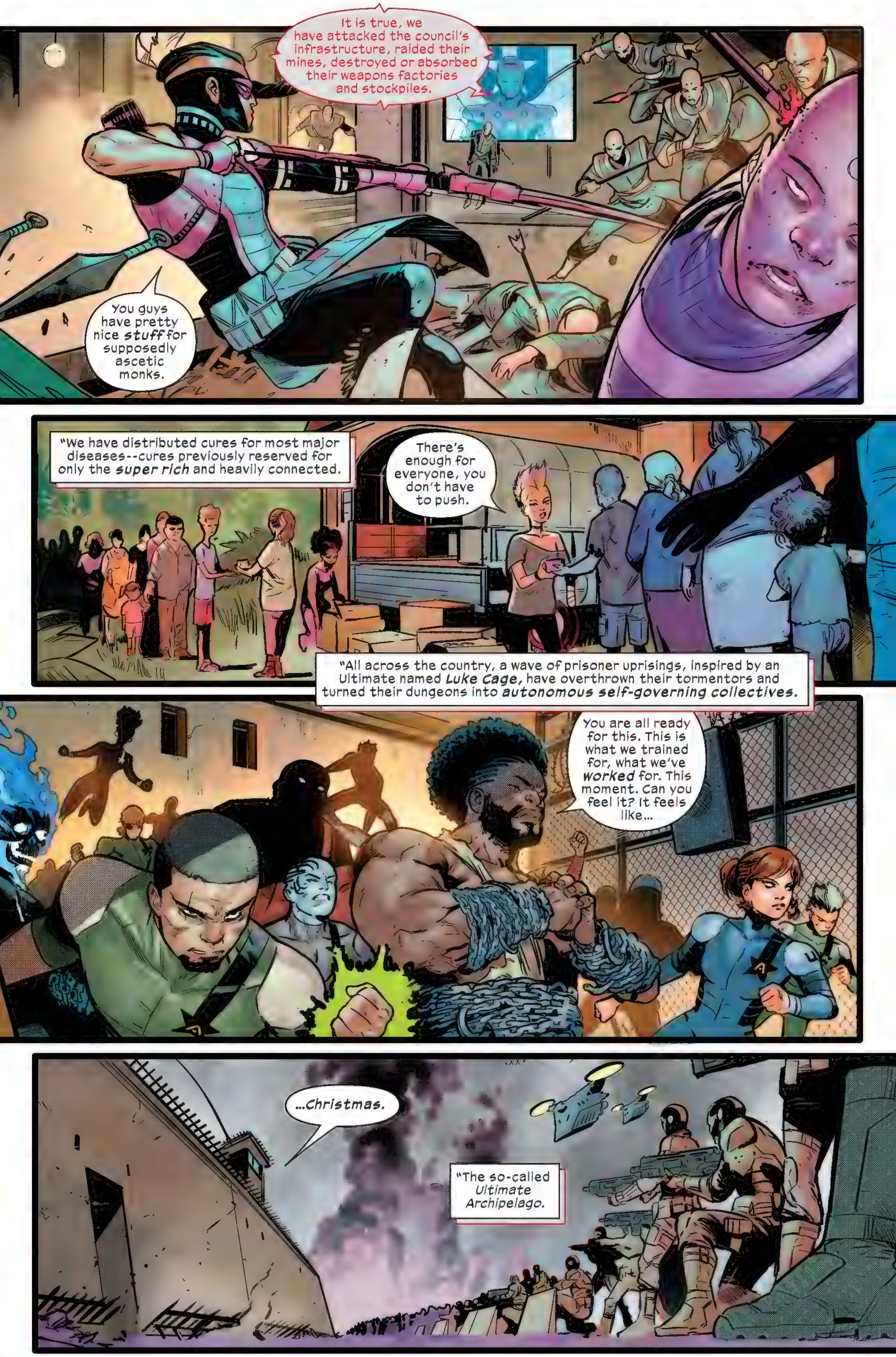

Hello. My name is Tony Stark.
Some of you know me as Iron Lad, founding member of *the Ultimates.*
By now, most of you have heard something about me, one way or another. But most of you have never heard *from* me.
Whatever you've heard, I hope you'll *listen.*
This message is being transmitted to every receiver in the world, automatically translated according to region.
This is for you. *All* of you.

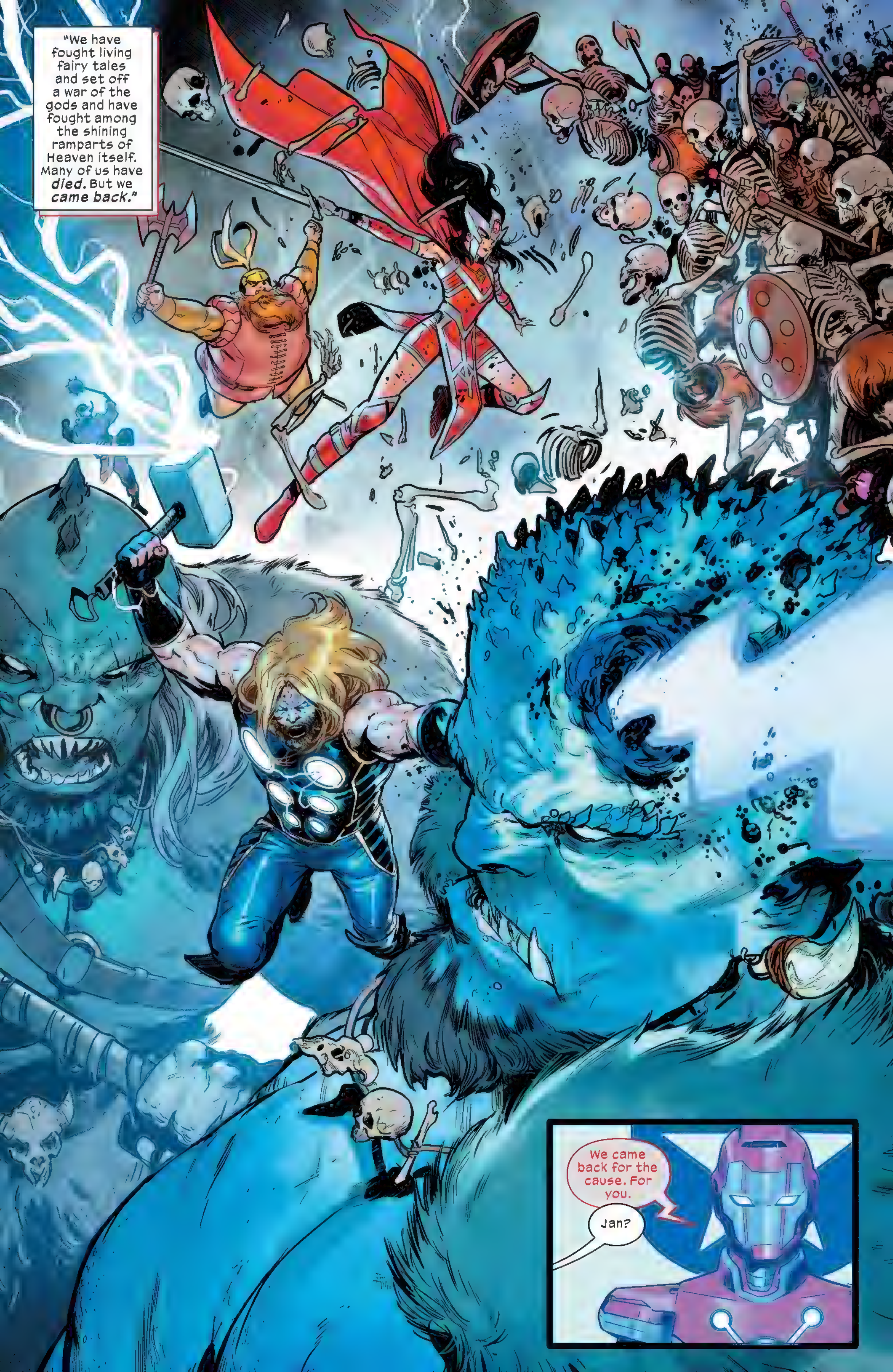

Ever since I was a little boy, I felt there was something wrong with the world. That there should be... *more.*
Buh?
I know that many of *you* have felt it too. Life was supposed to be *better* than this, wasn't it?
Brighter. Kinder. More full of hope. *We* were supposed to be better.
But instead, we live small lives and dream small dreams and spend all our time trying to escape reality.
Why do we want so desperately to *escape?*
RETURN TO THE FUTURE
I think it's because "reality" is millions starving despite unprecedented abundance. "Reality" is millions more going homeless, sleeping on sidewalks circling empty luxury high-rises.
"Reality" is sanctioned *genocide,* irreversible environmental damage and *widespread oppression.*
.5 1 1.5 2 2.5 3
The reality *is*...we have no say in the course of our lives.
We are not people, but *cogs* in a vast, unfeeling machine that slowly grinds us down into painful nothing.
Somebody get that little [redacted] off the air! Get me Van Dyne-- *now!*
Who wouldn't want to escape?

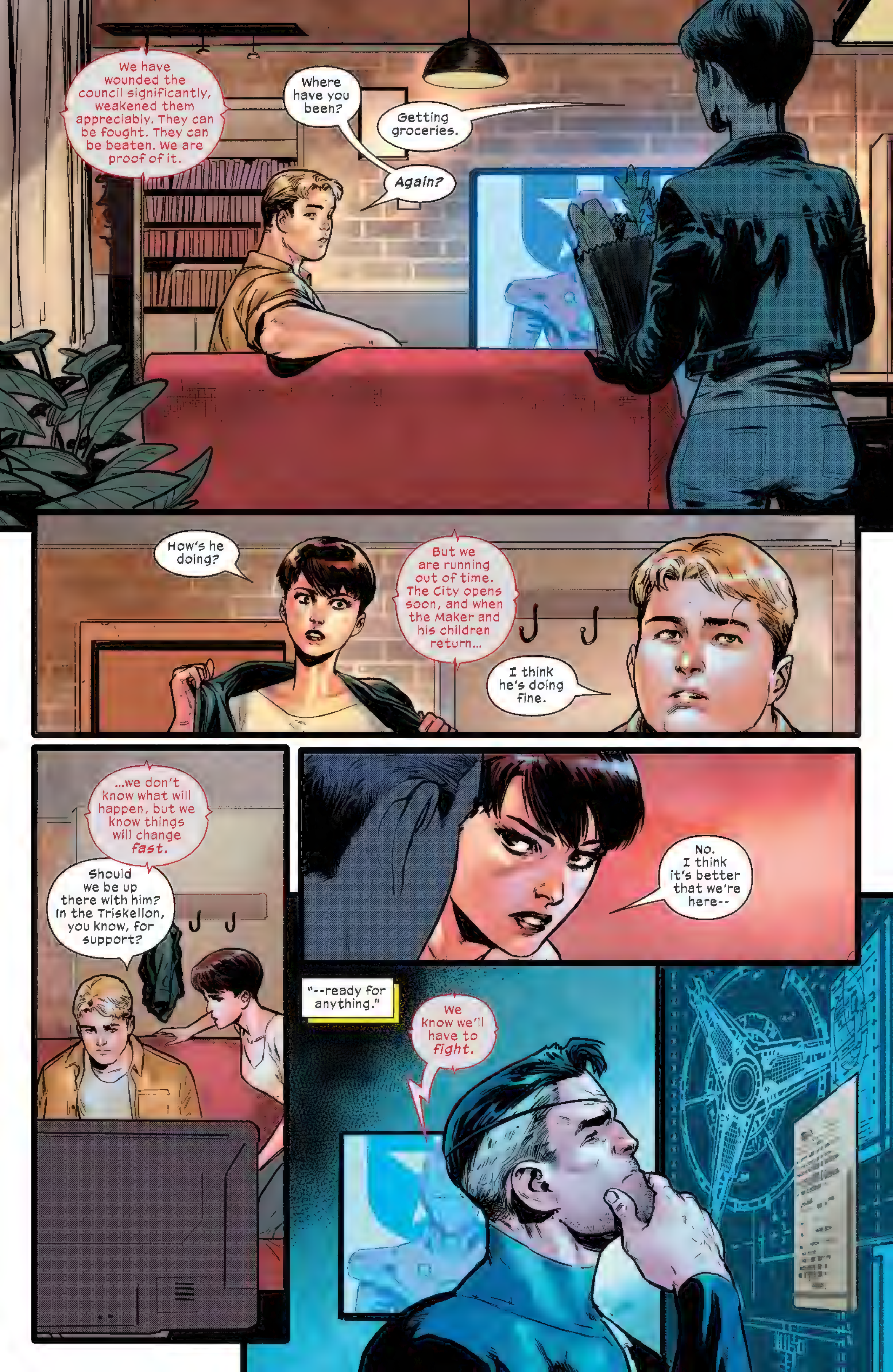

So what happened? How did we get here? Who is to blame for all this?
Assemble La Croisade Noire!
You know the man responsible. His name is **the Maker.** He and all of the world's leaders--
--Henri Duggary, Emmanuel Da Costa, Bruce Banner, Illyana Rasputin and Emperor Sunfire--
--have conspired to rob you of your freedom, to kill and imprison all who stand against them and to drain the life from this world.
...stupid, petulant child...!
I have seen it for myself. I've seen mass graves filled with super heroes, many of them children. They go on for miles.
I've seen hidden prehistoric paradises fouled beyond repair. The innocent inhabitants of idyllic islands turned into radioactive test subjects.
I've seen forty-thousand-year-old cities built by strange and beautiful life-forms-- *a race so genetically diverse no two remotely resemble each other--* ***empty,*** except for ghosts.
For over half a century, they have killed and imprisoned every potential threat to their power, everyone they could not corrupt or contain. The world as we know it is an experiment in cruelty and control.
So the secret's out...

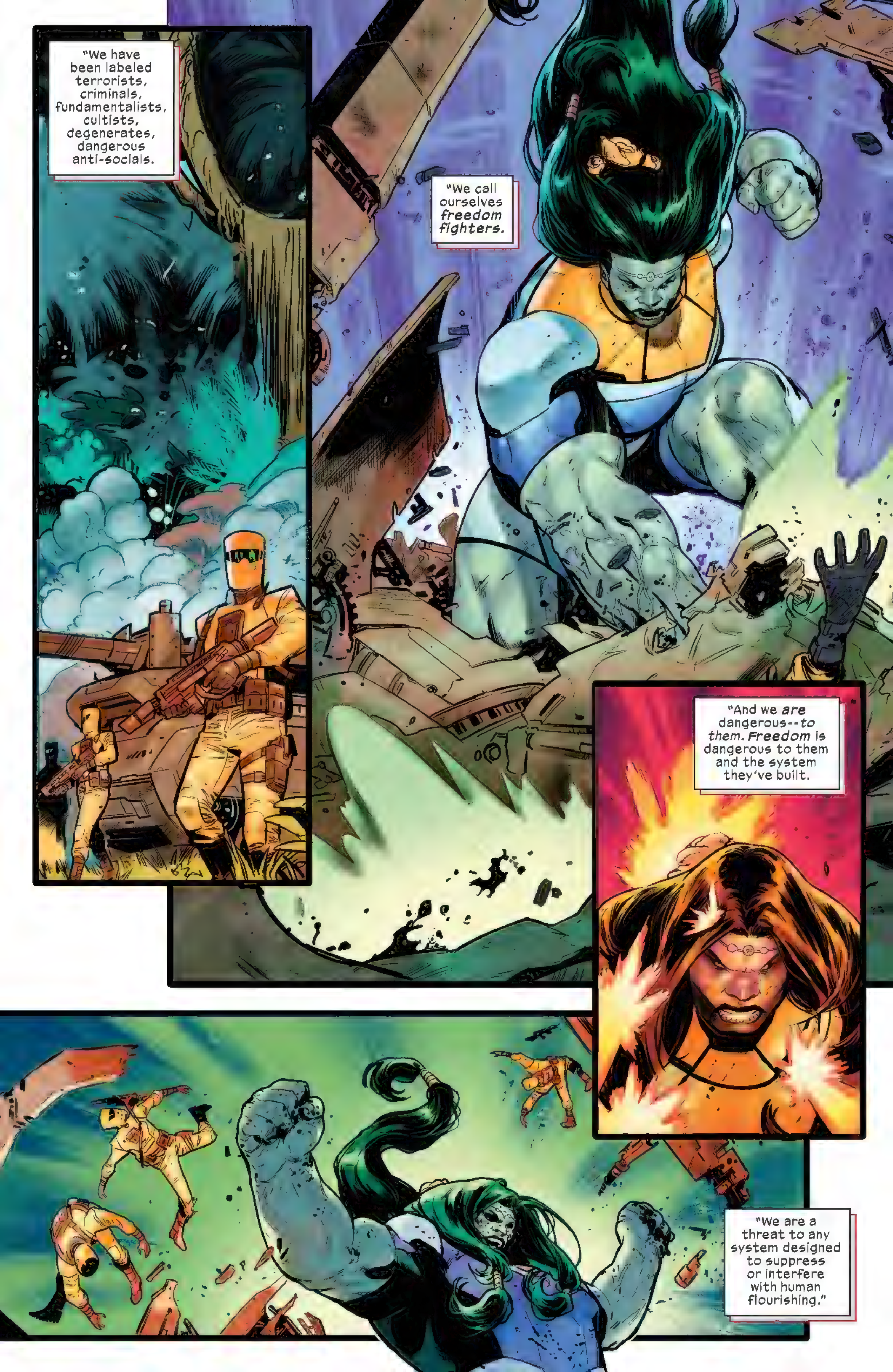

"It was not supposed to be like this. My father, Howard Stark, trapped the Maker in his City to give humanity a chance. His sacrifice bought us two years to *fix the world.*
"And for the last two years, the Ultimates have been trying to do just that. But time is running *out.*
"Most of what we've accomplished has been hidden from you. Most of what you've heard about us has been lies and manipulations.
"We did not destroy Stark Tower. That was the work of the Maker's Council, in an attempt to discredit us. We grieve every one of those lives lost.

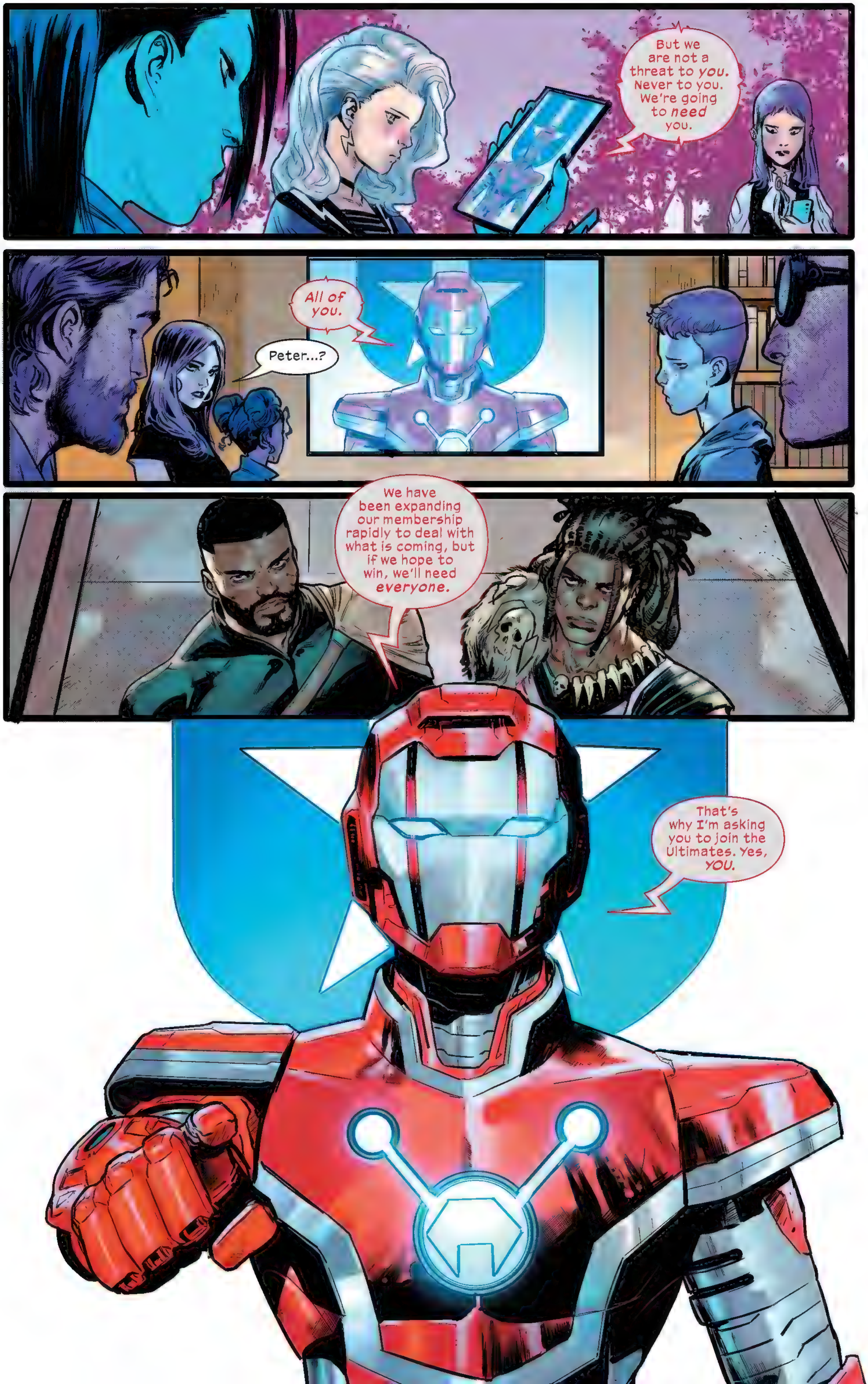

"The power outages in Maryland and Virginia last year *were* the result of our actions.
"The Maker had built the grid on the *unending suffering* of an innocent young woman--*one of the most incredible people I've ever met*--
"--and we did not think that was right.
"We would make the same decision again."

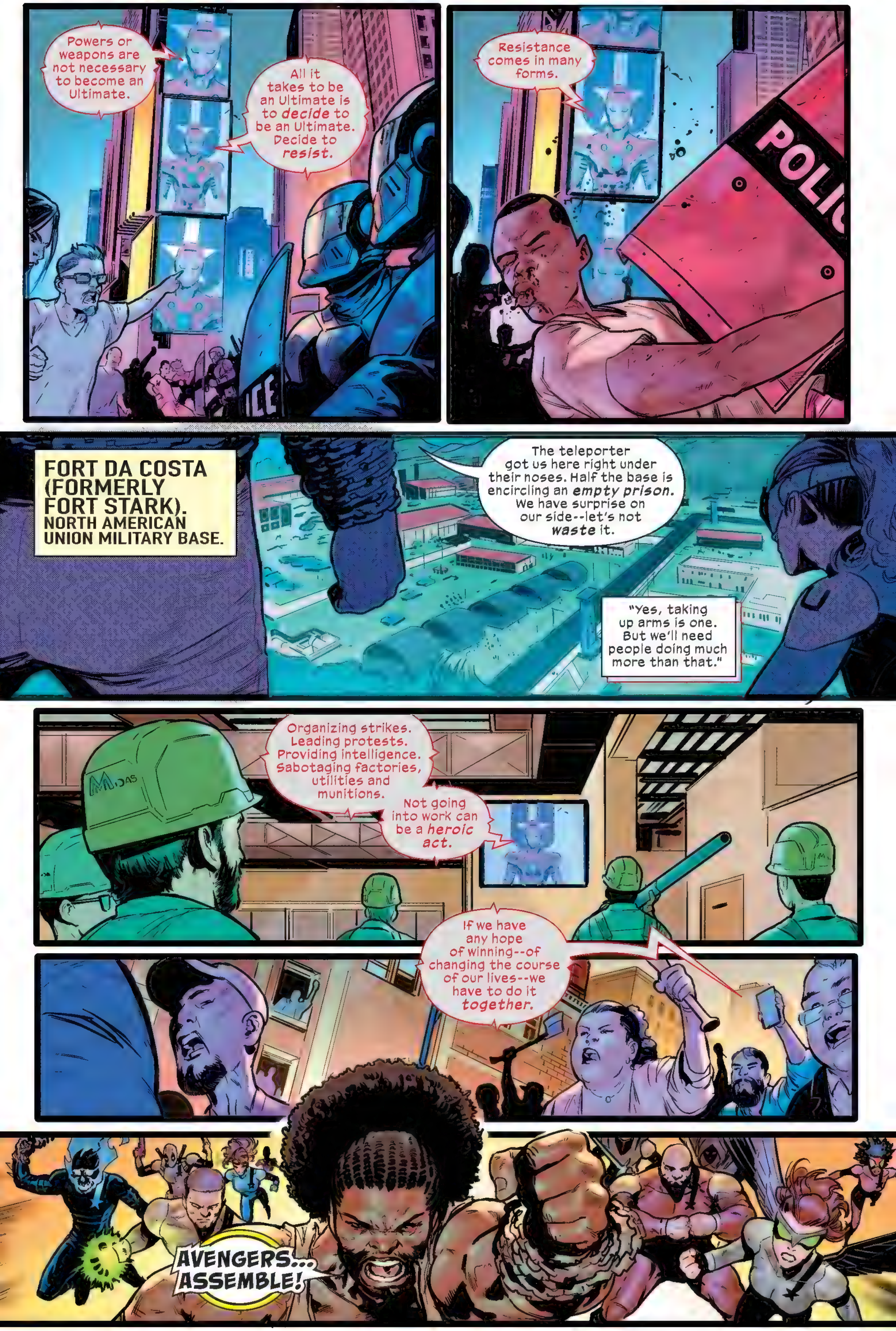

It is true, we have attacked the council's infrastructure, raided their mines, destroyed or absorbed their weapons factories and stockpiles.
You guys have pretty nice *stuff* for supposedly ascetic monks.
"We have distributed cures for most major diseases--cures previously reserved for only the *super rich* and heavily connected.
There's enough for everyone, you don't have to push.
"All across the country, a wave of prisoner uprisings, inspired by an Ultimate named *Luke Cage,* have overthrown their tormentors and turned their dungeons into *autonomous self-governing collectives.*
You are all ready for this. This is what we trained for, what we've *worked* for. This moment. Can you feel it? It feels like...
...Christmas.
"The so-called *Ultimate Archipelago.*

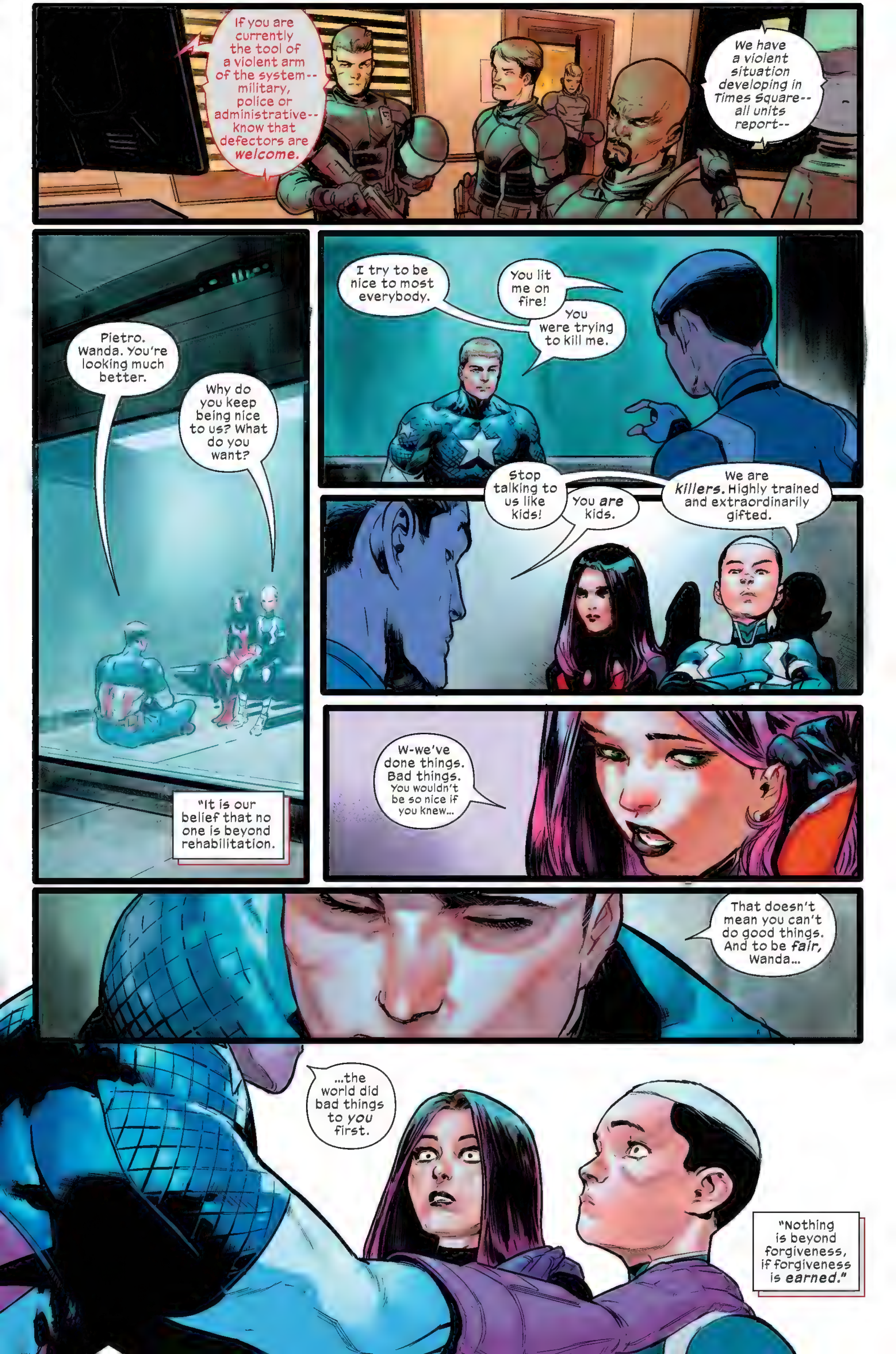

"We have fought living fairy tales and set off a war of the gods and have fought among the shining ramparts of Heaven itself. Many of us have *died.* But we *came back.*"
We came back for the cause. For you.
Jan?

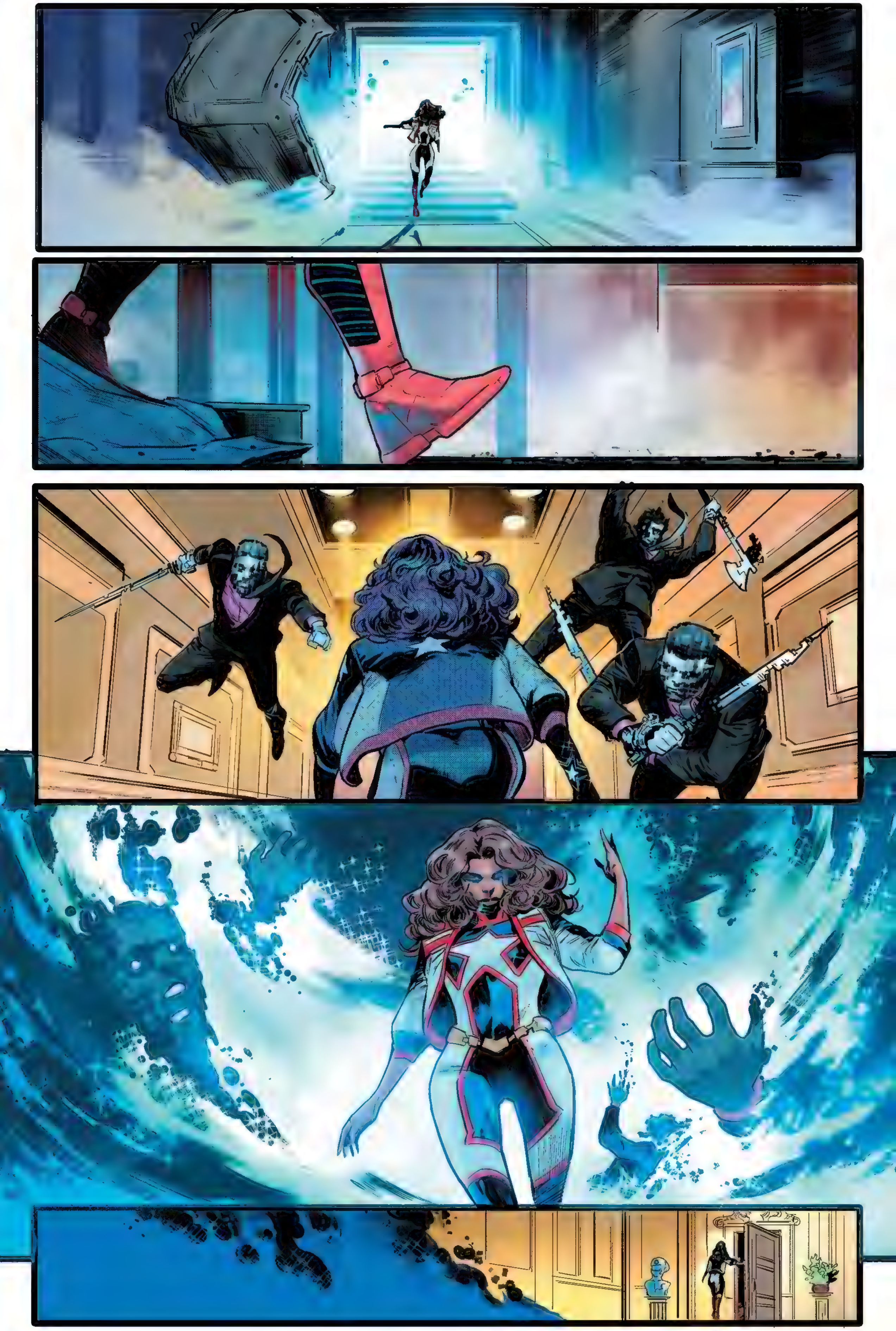

We have wounded the council significantly, weakened them appreciably. They can be fought. They can be beaten. We are proof of it.
Where have you been?
Getting groceries.
Again?
How's he doing?
But we are running out of time. The City opens soon, and when the Maker and his children return...
I think he's doing fine.
...we don't know what will happen, but we know things will change *fast.*
Should we be up there with him? In the Triskelion, you know, for support?
No. I think it's better that we're here--
"--ready for anything."
We know we'll have to *fight.*

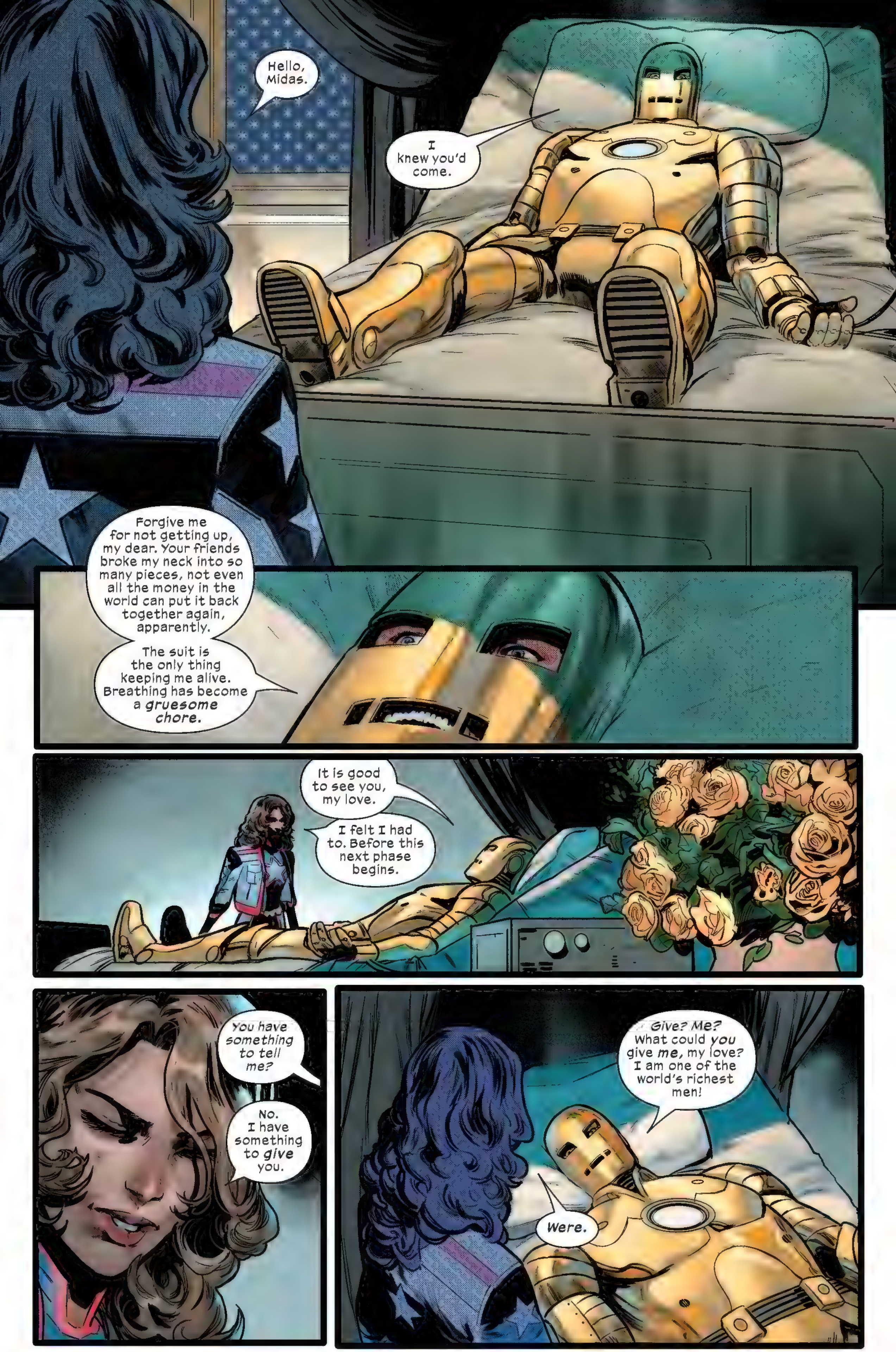

"We have been labeled terrorists, criminals, fundamentalists, cultists, degenerates, dangerous anti-socials.
"We call ourselves *freedom fighters.*
"And we *are* dangerous--*to them. Freedom* is dangerous to them and the system they've built.
"We are a threat to any system designed to suppress or interfere with human flourishing."

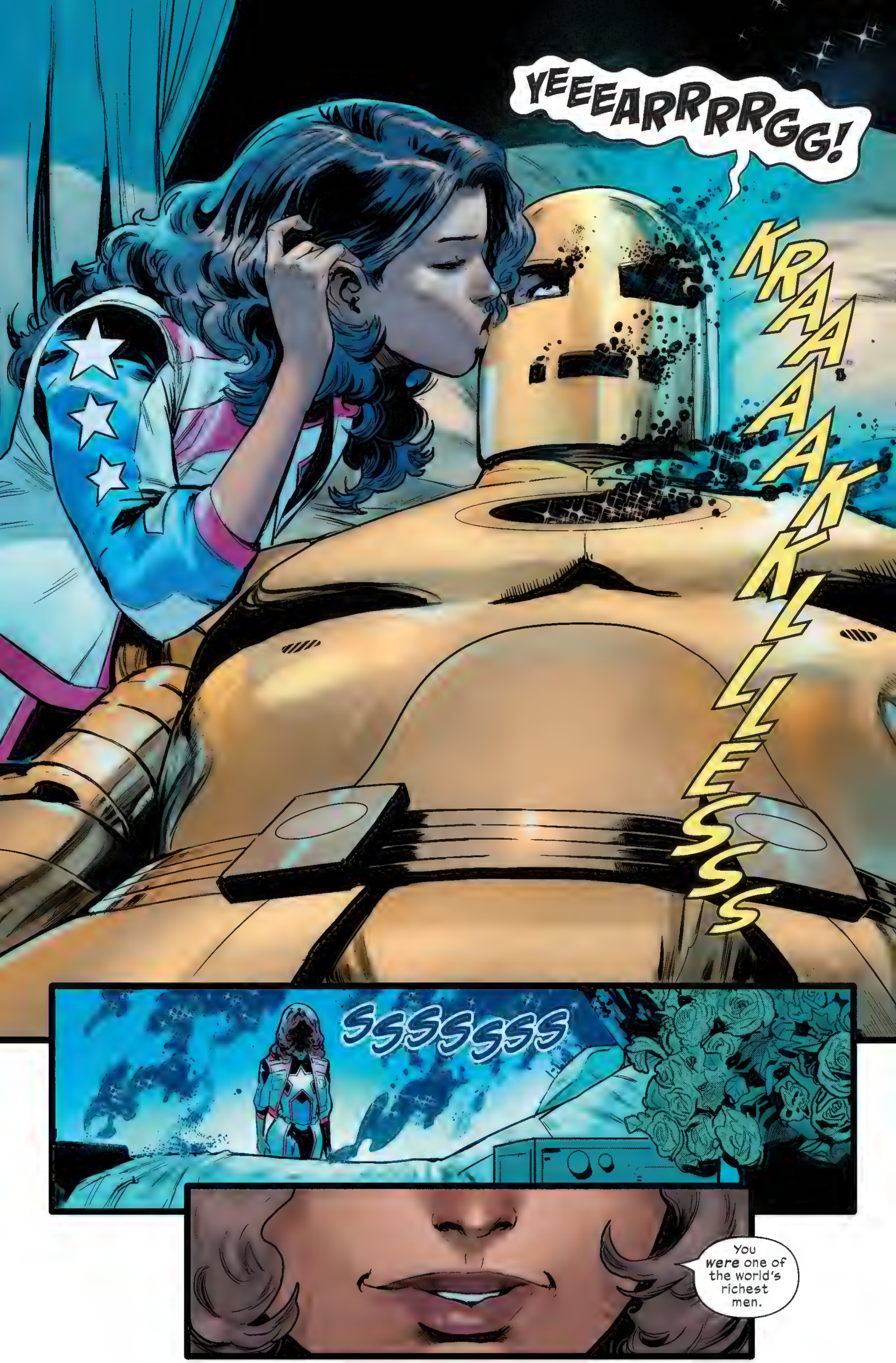

But we are not a threat to *you.* Never to you. We're going to *need* you.
All of you.
Peter...?
We have been expanding our membership rapidly to deal with what is coming, but if we hope to win, we'll need *everyone.*
That's why I'm asking you to join the Ultimates. Yes, *YOU.*

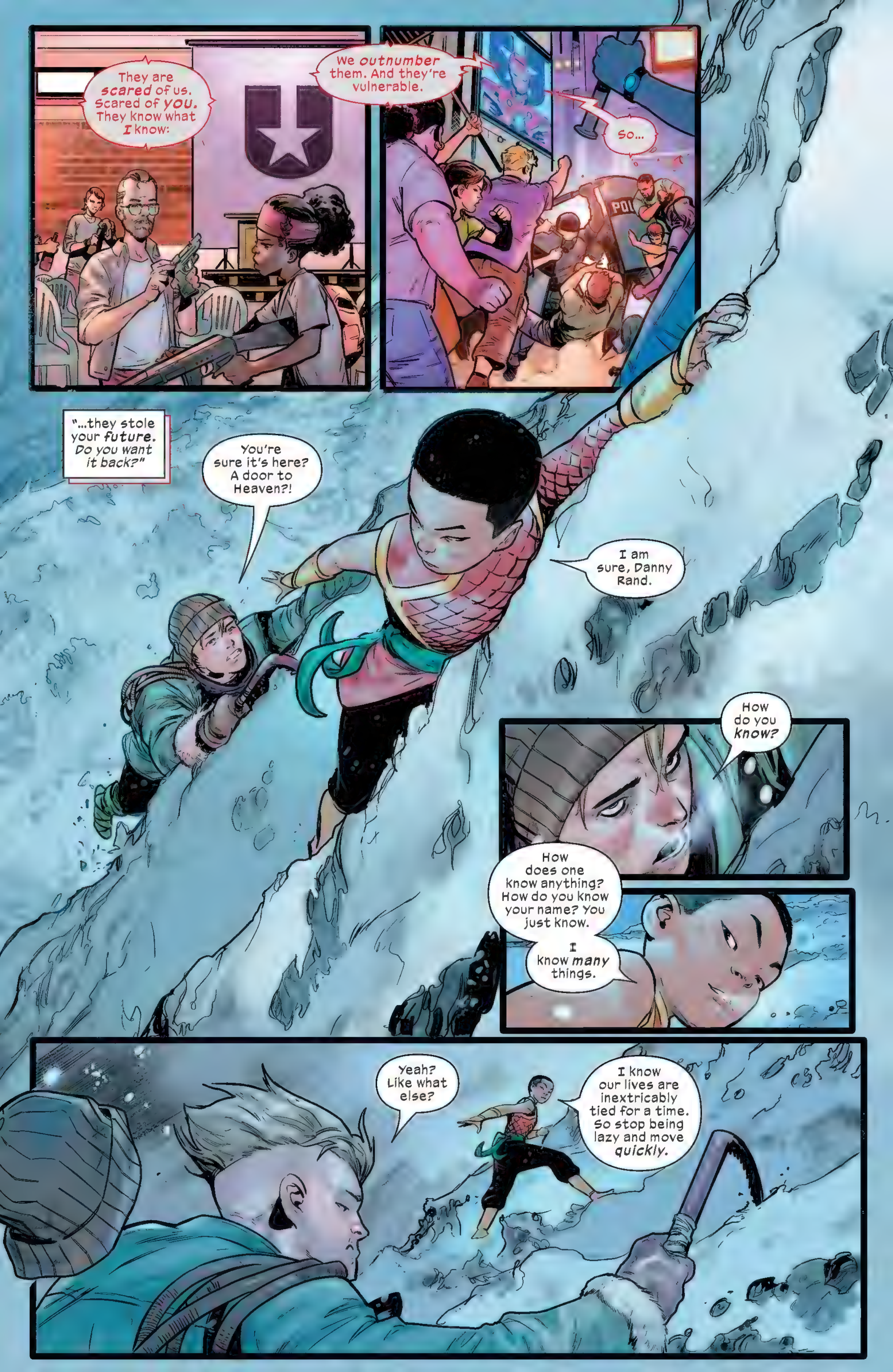

Powers or weapons are not necessary to become an Ultimate.
All it takes to be an Ultimate is to *decide* to be an Ultimate. Decide to *resist*.
ICE
Resistance comes in many forms.
POLIC
FORT DA COSTA (FORMERLY FORT STARK). NORTH AMERICAN UNION MILITARY BASE.
The teleporter got us here right under their noses. Half the base is encircling an *empty prison*. We have surprise on our side--let's not *waste* it.
"Yes, taking up arms is one. But we'll need people doing much more than that."
Organizing strikes. Leading protests. Providing intelligence. Sabotaging factories, utilities and munitions.
Not going into work can be a *heroic act*.
MIDAS
If we have any hope of winning--of changing the course of our lives--we have to do it *together*.
AVENGERS... ASSEMBLE!

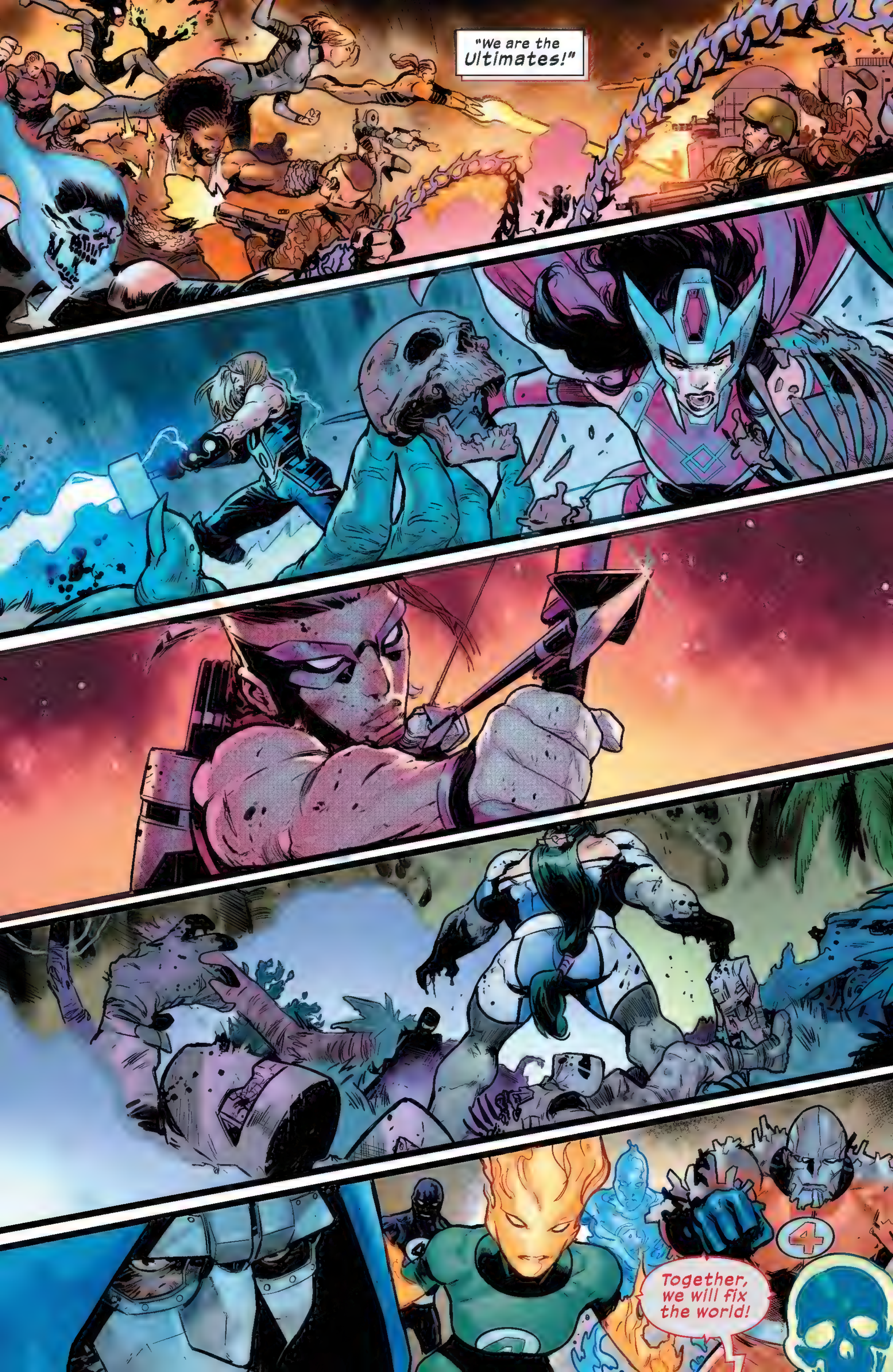

If you are currently the tool of a violent arm of the system--military, police or administrative--know that defectors are *welcome.*
We have a violent situation developing in Times Square--all units report--
Pietro. Wanda. You're looking much better.
Why do you keep being nice to us? What do you want?
"It is our belief that no one is beyond rehabilitation.
I try to be nice to most everybody.
You lit me on fire!
You were trying to kill me.
Stop talking to us like kids!
You *are* kids.
We are *killers.* Highly trained and extraordinarily gifted.
W-we've done things. Bad things. You wouldn't be so nice if you knew...
That doesn't mean you can't do good things. And to be *fair,* Wanda...
...the world did bad things to *you* first.
"Nothing is beyond forgiveness, if forgiveness is *earned.*"

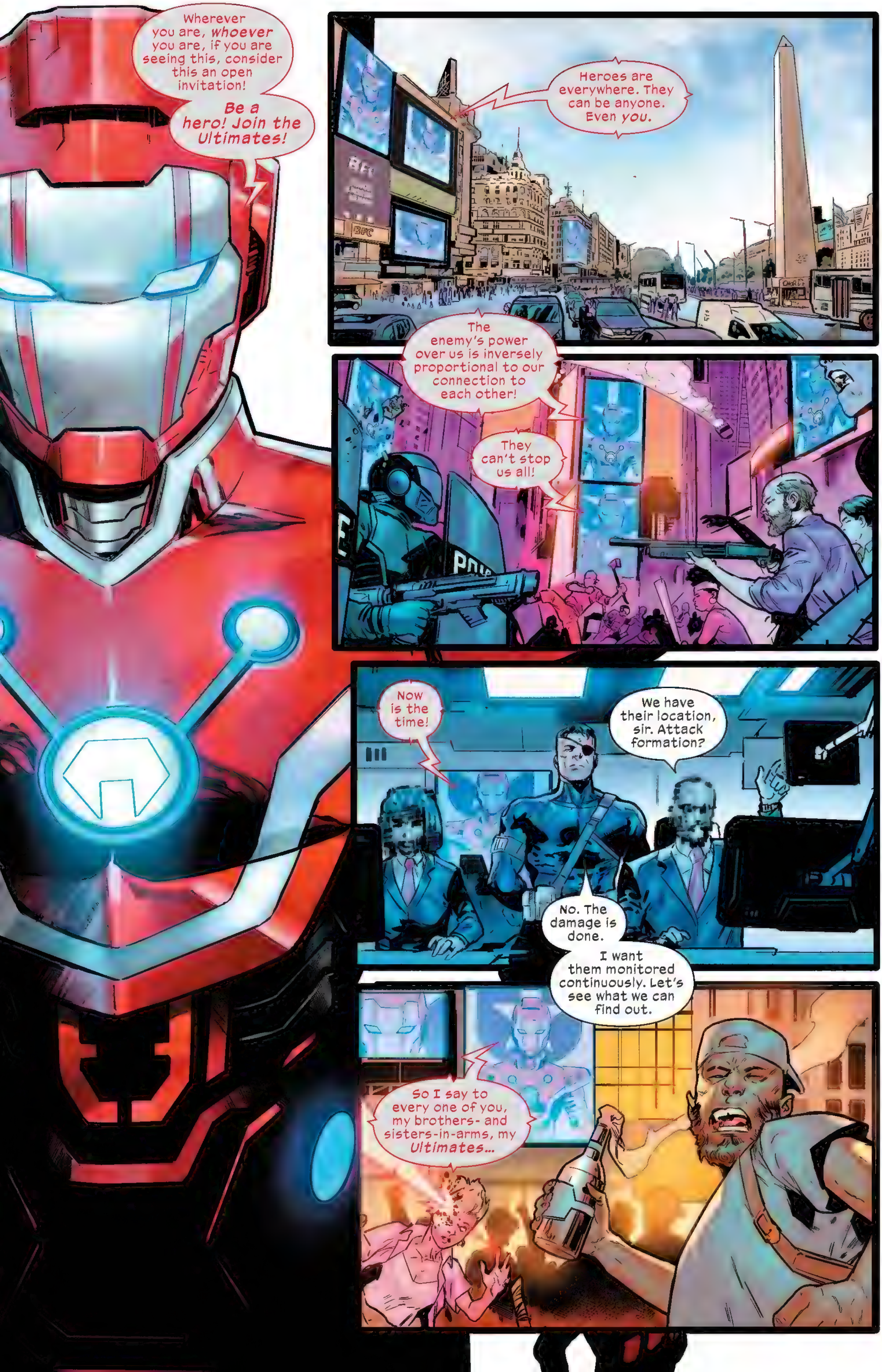


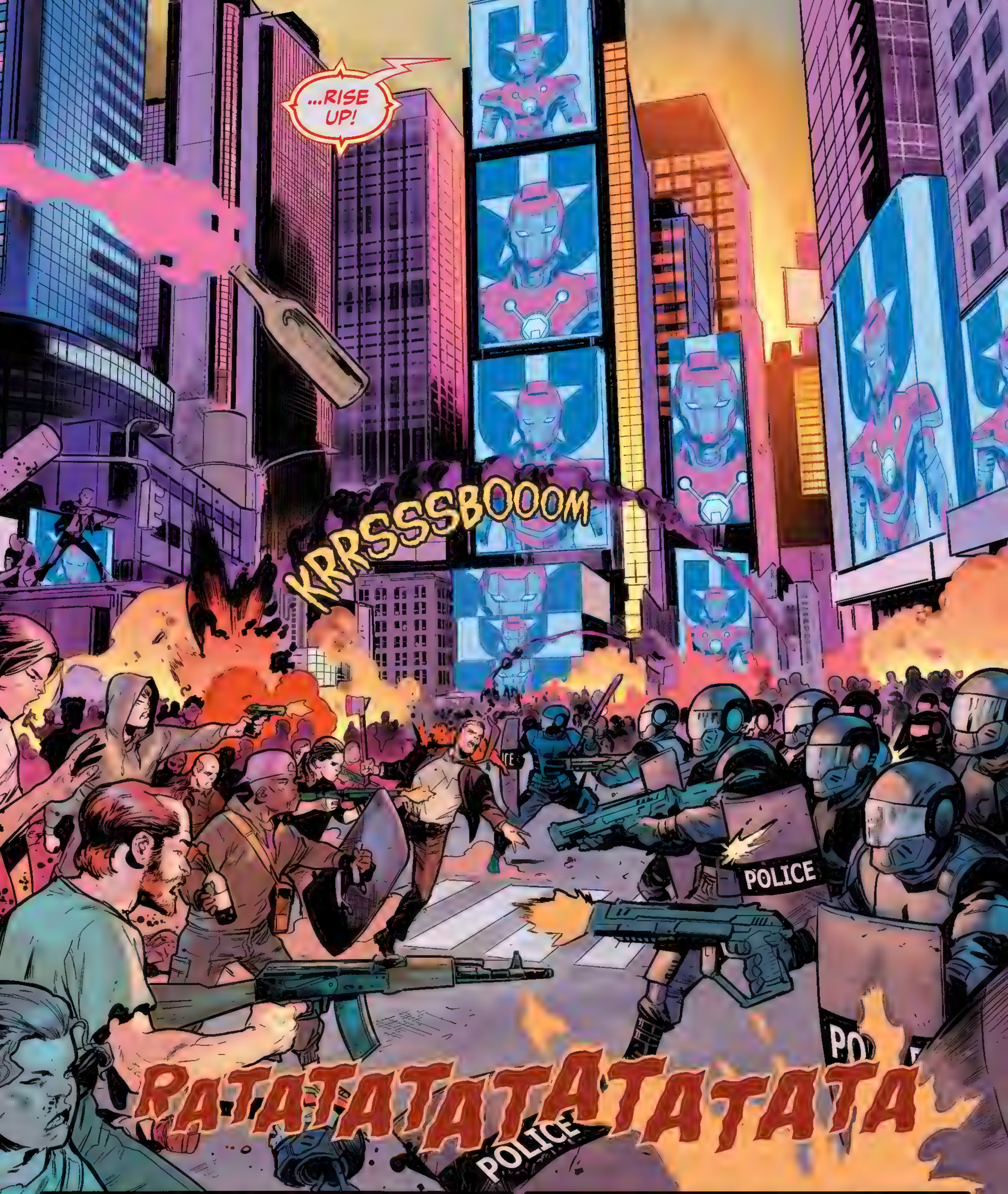

Hello, Midas.
I knew you'd come.
Forgive me for not getting up, my dear. Your friends broke my neck into so many pieces, not even all the money in the world can put it back together again, apparently.
The suit is the only thing keeping me alive. Breathing has become a *gruesome* chore.
It is good to see you, my love.
I felt I had to. Before this next phase begins.
You have something to tell me?
No. I have something to *give* you.
Give? Me? What could *you* give *me*, my love? I am one of the world's richest men!
Were.

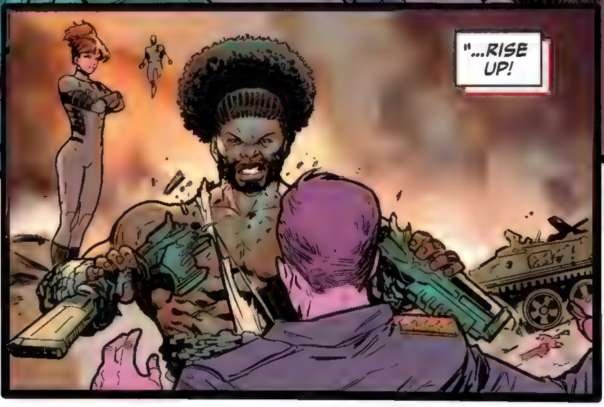

YEEEARRRRRGG!
KRAAAKKLLLESSS
SSSSSSS
You *were* one of the world's richest men.

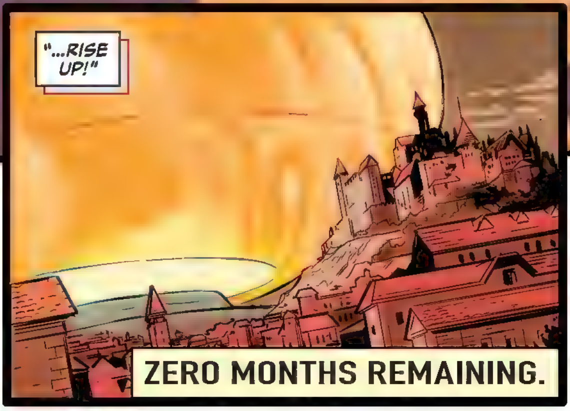

They are *scared* of us. Scared of *you.* They know what *I* know:
We *outnumber* them. And they're vulnerable.
So...
POL
"...they stole your *future.* Do you want it back?"
You're sure it's here? A door to Heaven?!
I am sure, Danny Rand.
How do you *know?*
How does one know anything? How do you know your name? You just know.
I know *many* things.
Yeah? Like what else?
I know our lives are inextricably tied for a time. So stop being lazy and move *quickly.*


"We are the Ultimates!"
Together, we will fix the world!


Wherever you are, *whoever* you are, if you are seeing this, consider this an open invitation!
Be a hero! Join the Ultimates!
Heroes are everywhere. They can be anyone. Even *you*.
The enemy's power over us is inversely proportional to our connection to each other!
They can't stop us all!
Now is the time!
We have their location, sir. Attack formation?
No. The damage is done.
I want them monitored continuously. Let's see what we can find out.
So I say to every one of you, my brothers- and sisters-in-arms, my *Ultimates*...


...RISE UP!
KRRSSSBOOOM
POLICE
PO
RATATATATATATATA
POLICE


"...RISE UP!


"...RISE UP!"
ZERO MONTHS REMAINING.

WRITER: **DENIZ CAMP**
ARTIST: **JUAN FRIGERI**

LETTERER: **VC's TRAVIS LANHAM**
COVER ARTISTS: **DIKE RUAN & NEERAJ MENON**
VARIANT
COVER ARTISTS: **INHYUK LEE; ANDREA SORRENTINO;**
ADAM POLLINA & ERICK ARCINIEGA

DESIGN: **JAY BOWEN**
PRODUCTION: **GABRIEL MATA**
ASSISTANT EDITOR: **MICHELLE MARCHESE**
EDITOR: **WIL MOSS**
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NEXT

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THE ULTIMATES
CAMP FRIGERI BLEE

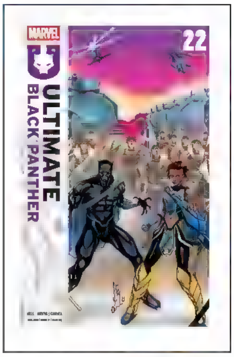
ON SALE IN **DECEMBER**

ON SALE THIS MONTH

MARVEL
23
ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN

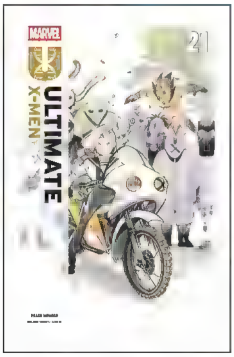
ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN #23

BY **JONATHAN HICKMAN,**
MARCO CHECCHETTO & **DAVID MESSINA**


MARVEL
22
ULTIMATE BLACK PANTHER

ULTIMATE BLACK PANTHER #22

BY **BRYAN HILL**
& **CARLOS NIETO**


MARVEL
21
ULTIMATE X-MEN

ULTIMATE X-MEN #21

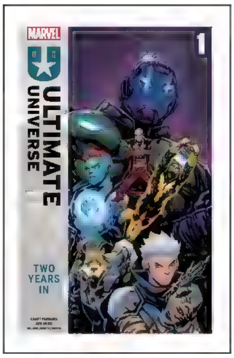
BY **PEACH MOMOKO**

MARVEL
11
ULTIMATE WOLVERINE

ULTIMATE WOLVERINE #11

BY **CHRIS CONDON**
& **ALESSANDRO CAPPUCCIO**

ON SALE NEXT MONTH


MARVEL
1
ULTIMATE UNIVERSE
TWO YEARS IN

ULTIMATE UNIVERSE: TWO YEARS IN #1

BY **DENIZ CAMP,**
ALEX PAKNADEL & **MORE**

MARVEL
ULTIMATE ENDGAME

ULTIMATE ENDGAME #1

BY **DENIZ CAMP,**
TERRY DODSON & **JONAS SCHARF**

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11

A diabolical genius known as **THE MAKER** used time travel to create his ideal Earth by systematically preventing anyone from ever becoming a super hero and by establishing a secret council of super villains, **THE MAKER'S COUNCIL**, that rules the world from the shadows.

Three of those councilmembers–**COLOSSUS**, **MAGIK** and **OMEGA RED**–run the **EURASIAN REPUBLIC**, one of two places in the world for all known mutant activity. Through their government's top secret division "**DIRECTORATE X**," headed by **DR. ALONYA PROSTOVICH** and designed to exploit the unique genetic powers exhibited in mutantkind, they turned the mutant known as **LOGAN** into their most lethal weapon, the brainwashed **WINTER SOLDIER**.

However, Logan's programming was broken after he reunited with a group of mutant freedom fighters known as **THE OPPOSITION**, taking the name **WOLVERINE**. **MIKHAIL RASPUTIN**, Magik and Colossus' brother, leads them. Wolverine's missions have undermined the Eurasian Republic—especially his recent assassination of Omega Red. But Dr. Prostovich has been working on a secret weapon that she believes will eliminate the Opposition for good...

ULTIMATE WOLVERINE

CAST:

WOLVERINE/
THE WINTER SOLDIER
LOGAN

SPRITE
KITTY PRYDE

GAMBIT
REMY LeBEAU

BLACK WIDOW
NATASHA ROMANOFF

MIKHAIL RASPUTIN
OPPOSITION LEADER

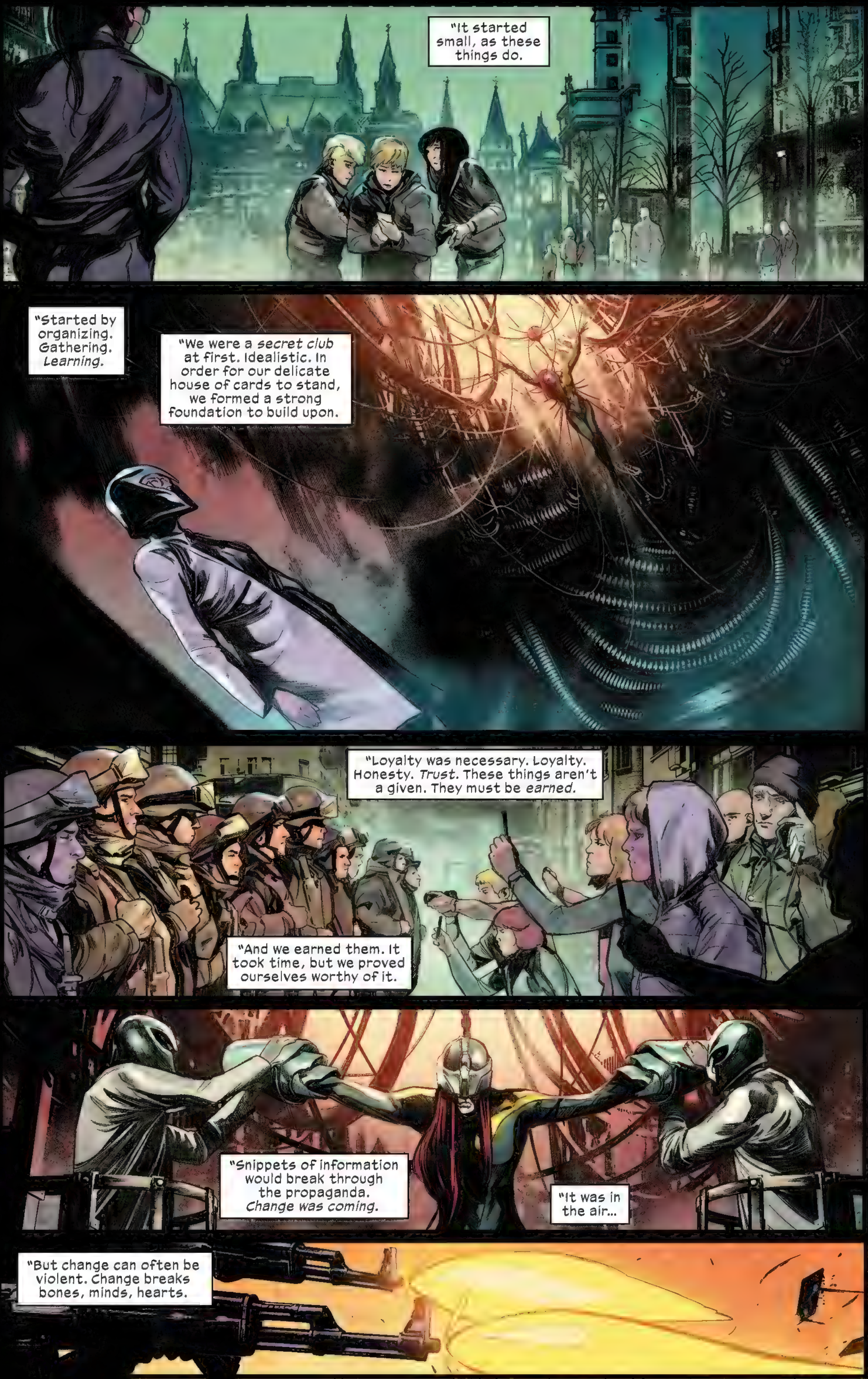
SABRETOOTH
VICTOR CREED

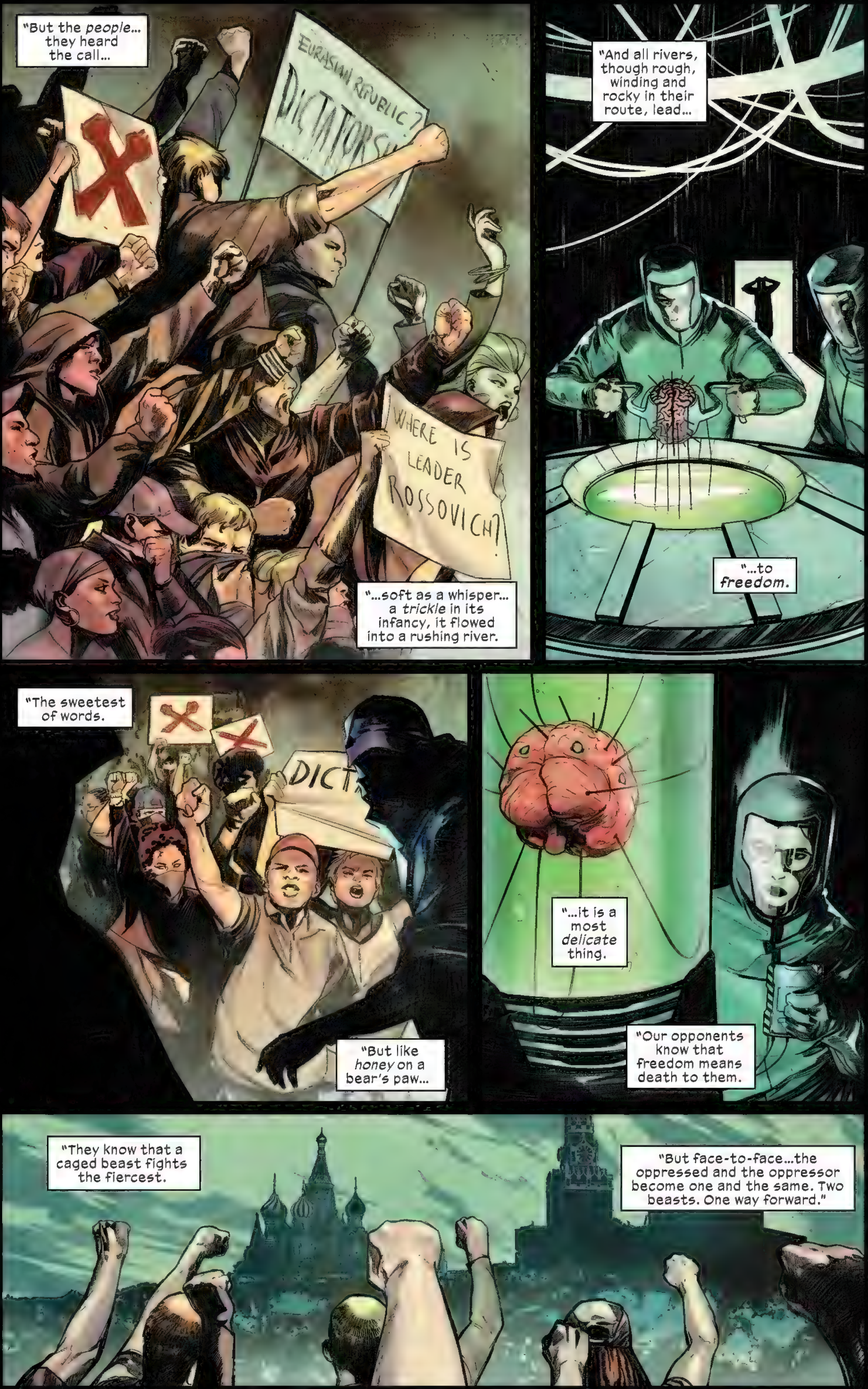
COLOSSUS
PIOTR RASPUTIN

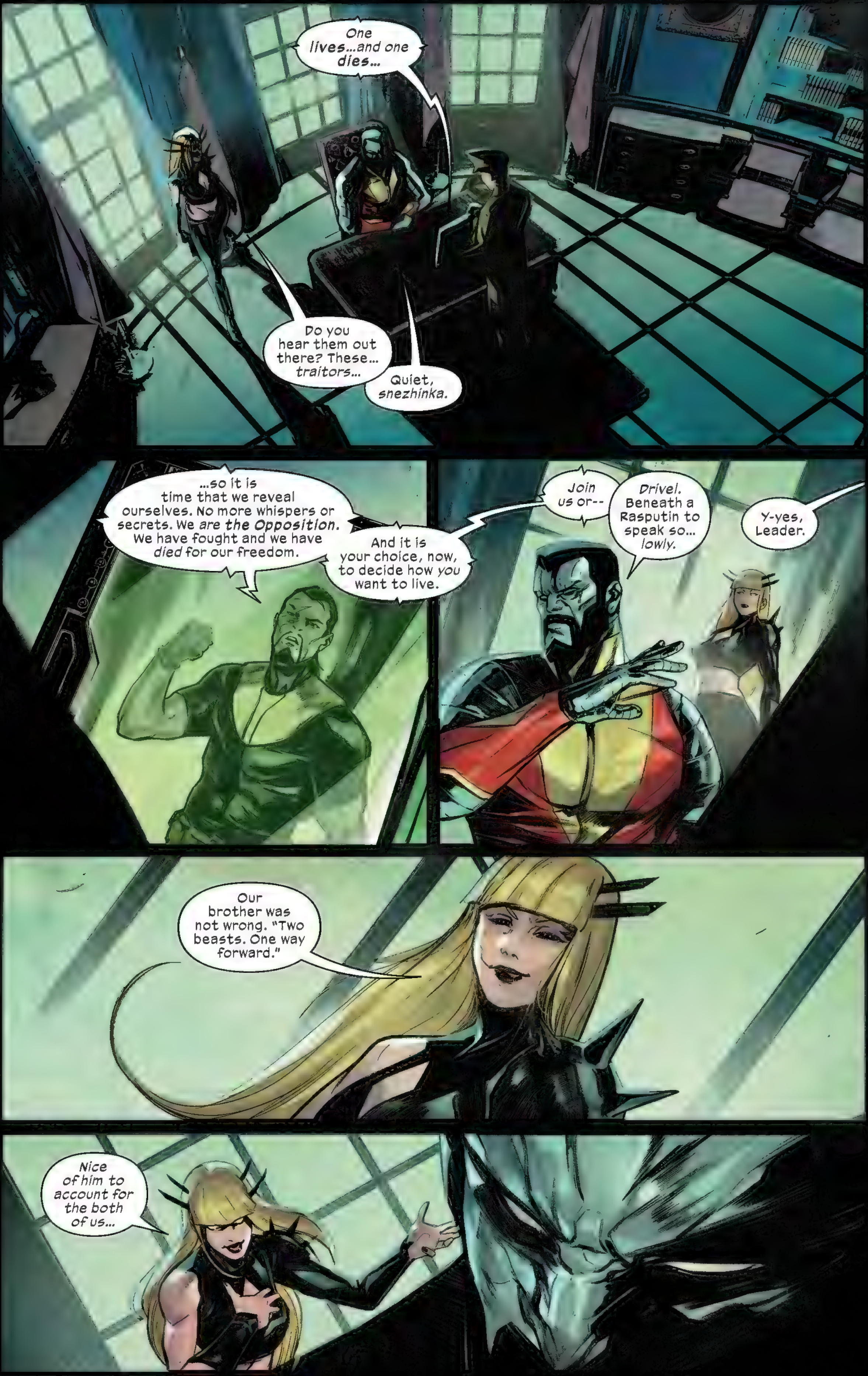
MAGIK
ILLYANA RASPUTIN

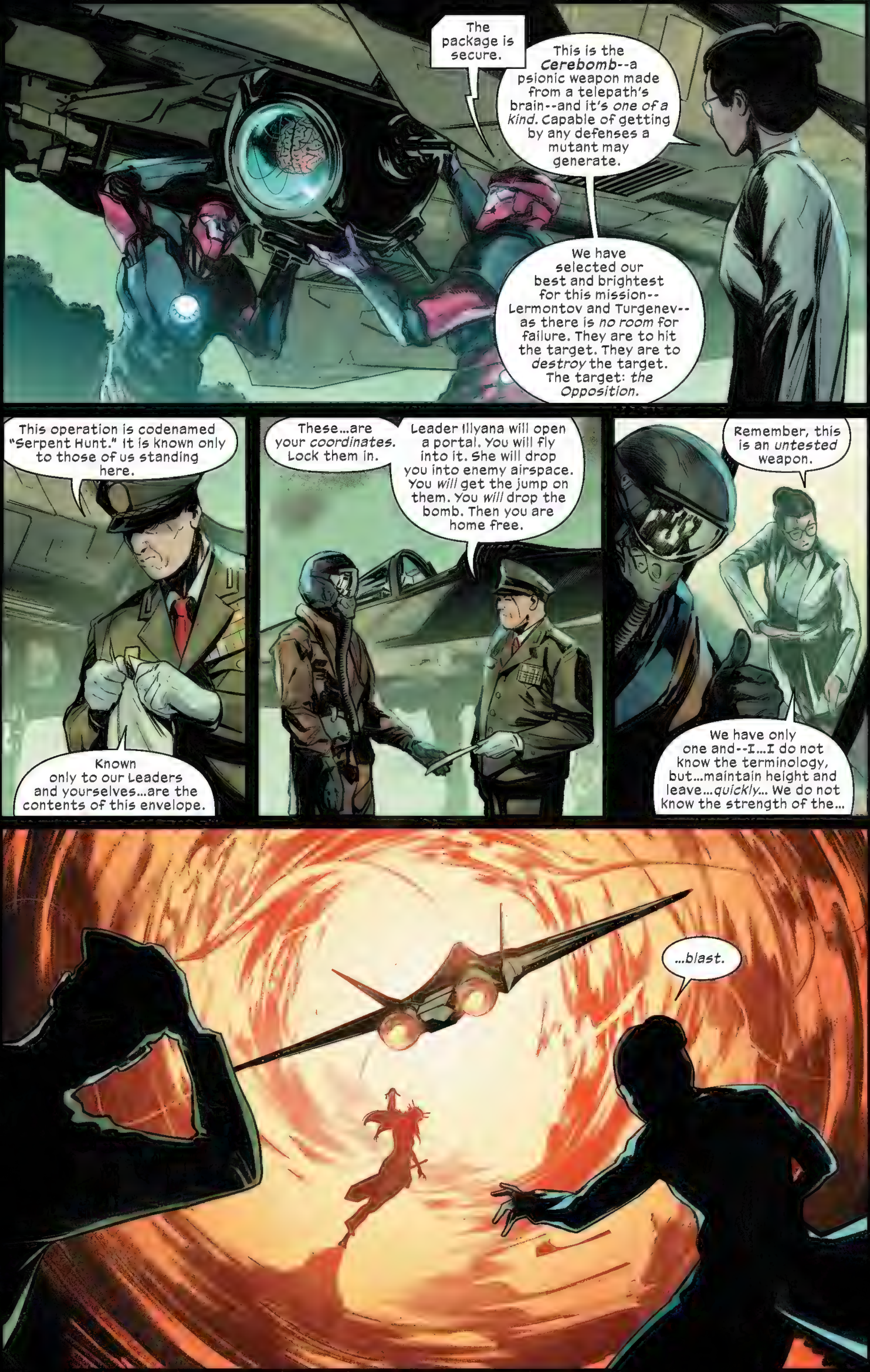
DR. ALONYA
PROSTOVICH
DIRECTORATE X
RESEARCH HEAD

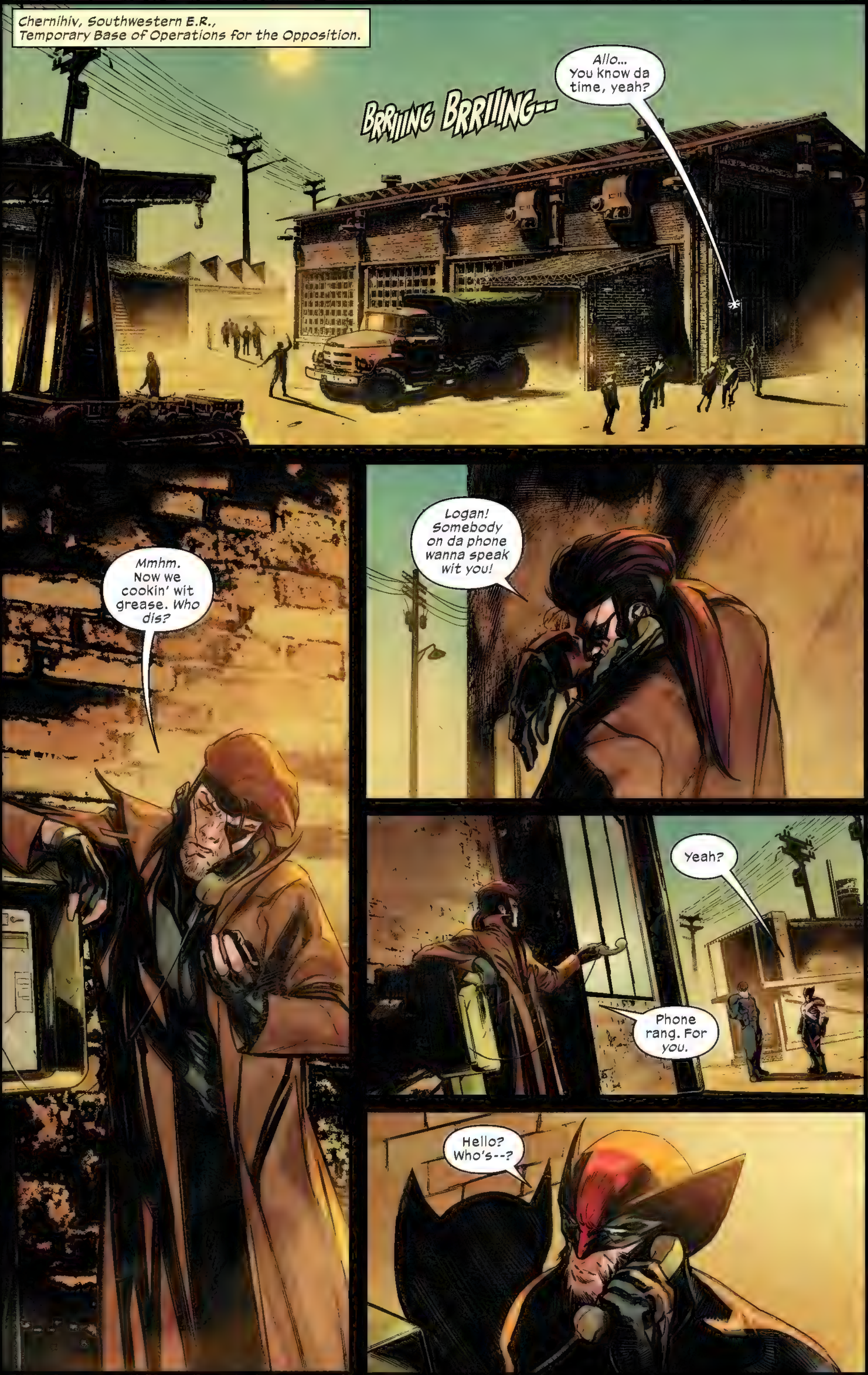
NOVEMBER 2025

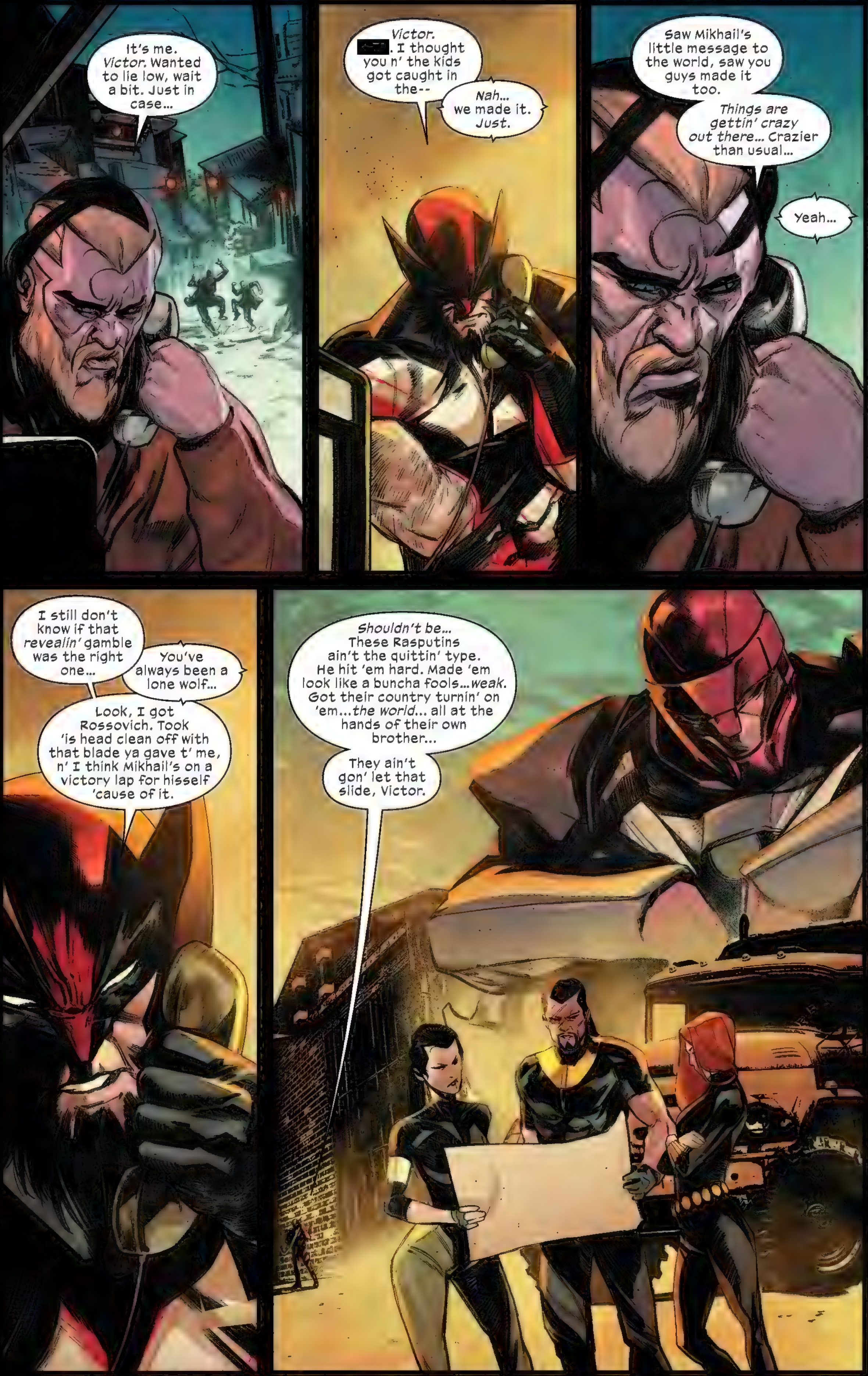

"It started small, as these things do.
"Started by organizing. Gathering. *Learning.*
"We were a *secret club* at first. Idealistic. In order for our delicate house of cards to stand, we formed a strong foundation to build upon.
"Loyalty was necessary. Loyalty. Honesty. *Trust.* These things aren't a given. They must be *earned.*
"And we earned them. It took time, but we proved ourselves worthy of it.
"Snippets of information would break through the propaganda. *Change was coming.*
"It was in the air...
"But change can often be violent. Change breaks bones, minds, hearts.

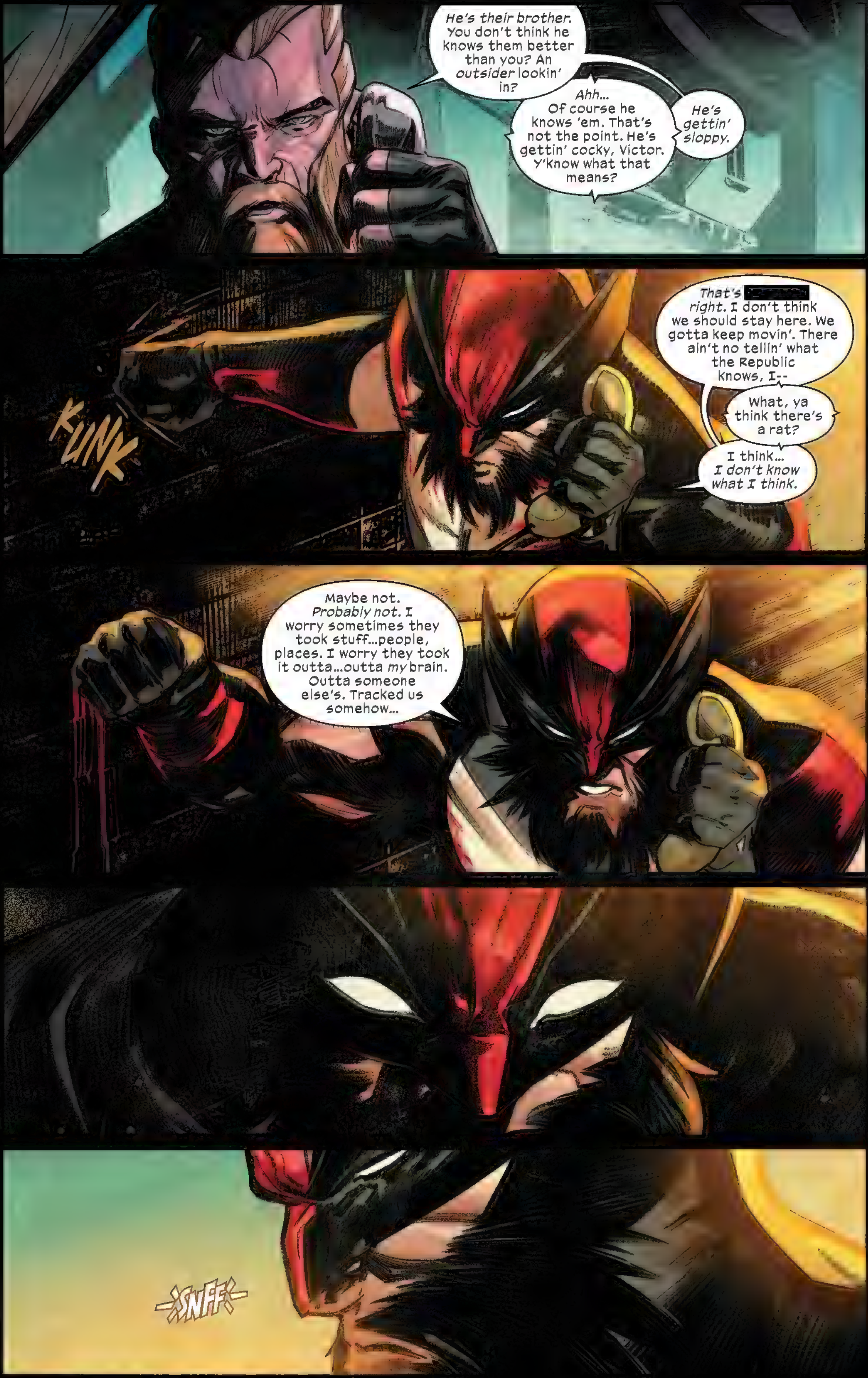

"But the *people*... they heard the call...
EURASIAN REPUBLIC? DICTATORSH
WHERE IS LEADER ROSSOVICH?
"...soft as a whisper... a *trickle* in its infancy, it flowed into a rushing river.
"And all rivers, though rough, winding and rocky in their route, lead...
"...to *freedom*.
"The sweetest of words.
DICT
"But like *honey* on a bear's paw...
"...it is a most *delicate* thing.
"Our opponents know that freedom means death to them.
"They know that a caged beast fights the fiercest.
"But face-to-face...the oppressed and the oppressor become one and the same. Two beasts. One way forward."

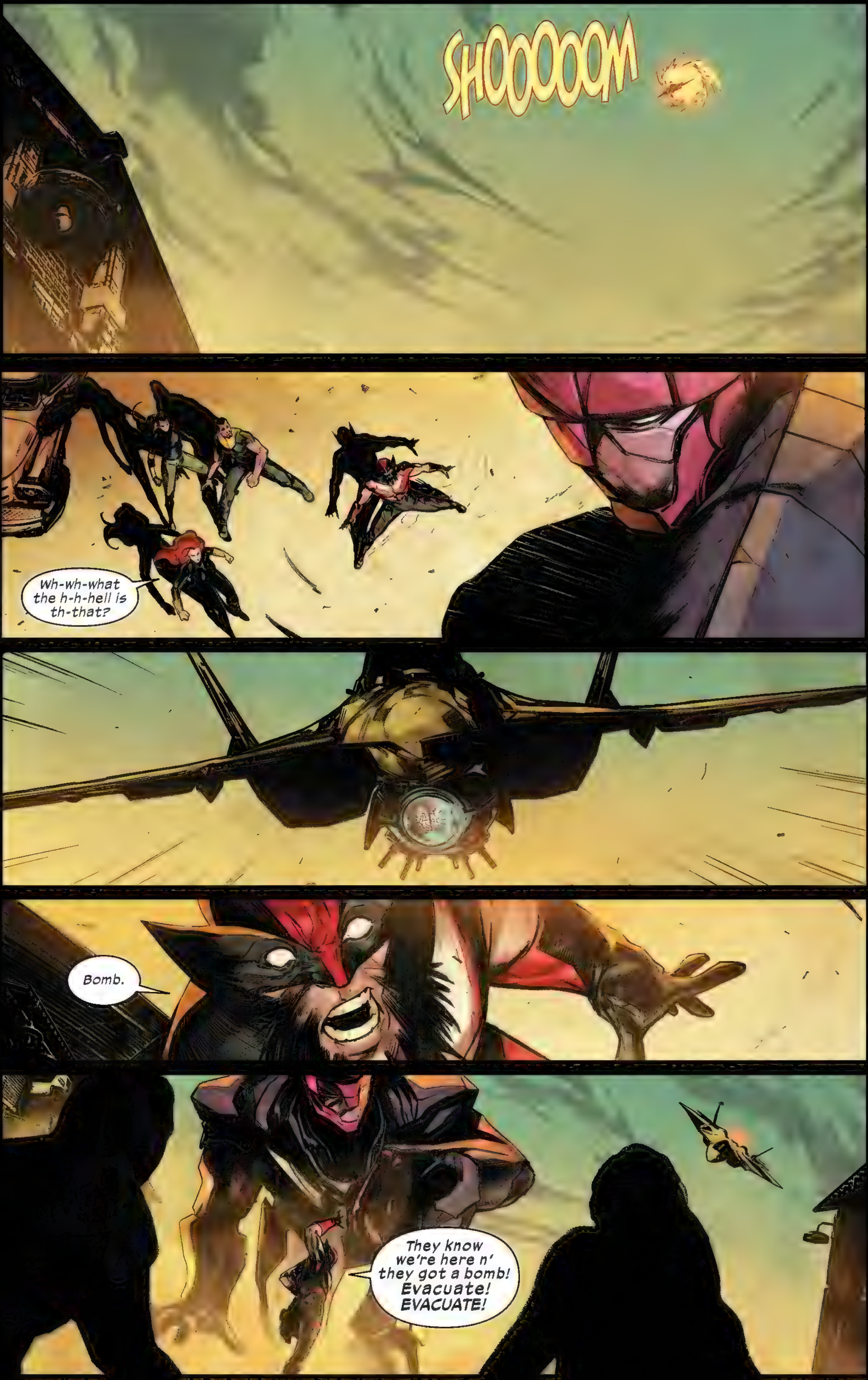

One *lives*...and one *dies*...
Do you hear them out there? These... *traitors*...
Quiet, *snezhinka*.
...so it is time that we reveal ourselves. No more whispers or secrets. We *are* ***the Opposition***. We have fought and we have *died* for our freedom.
And it is your choice, now, to decide how *you* want to live.
Join us or--
Drivel. Beneath a Rasputin to speak so... *lowly*.
Y-yes, Leader.
Our brother was not wrong. "Two beasts. One way forward."
Nice of him to account for the both of us...

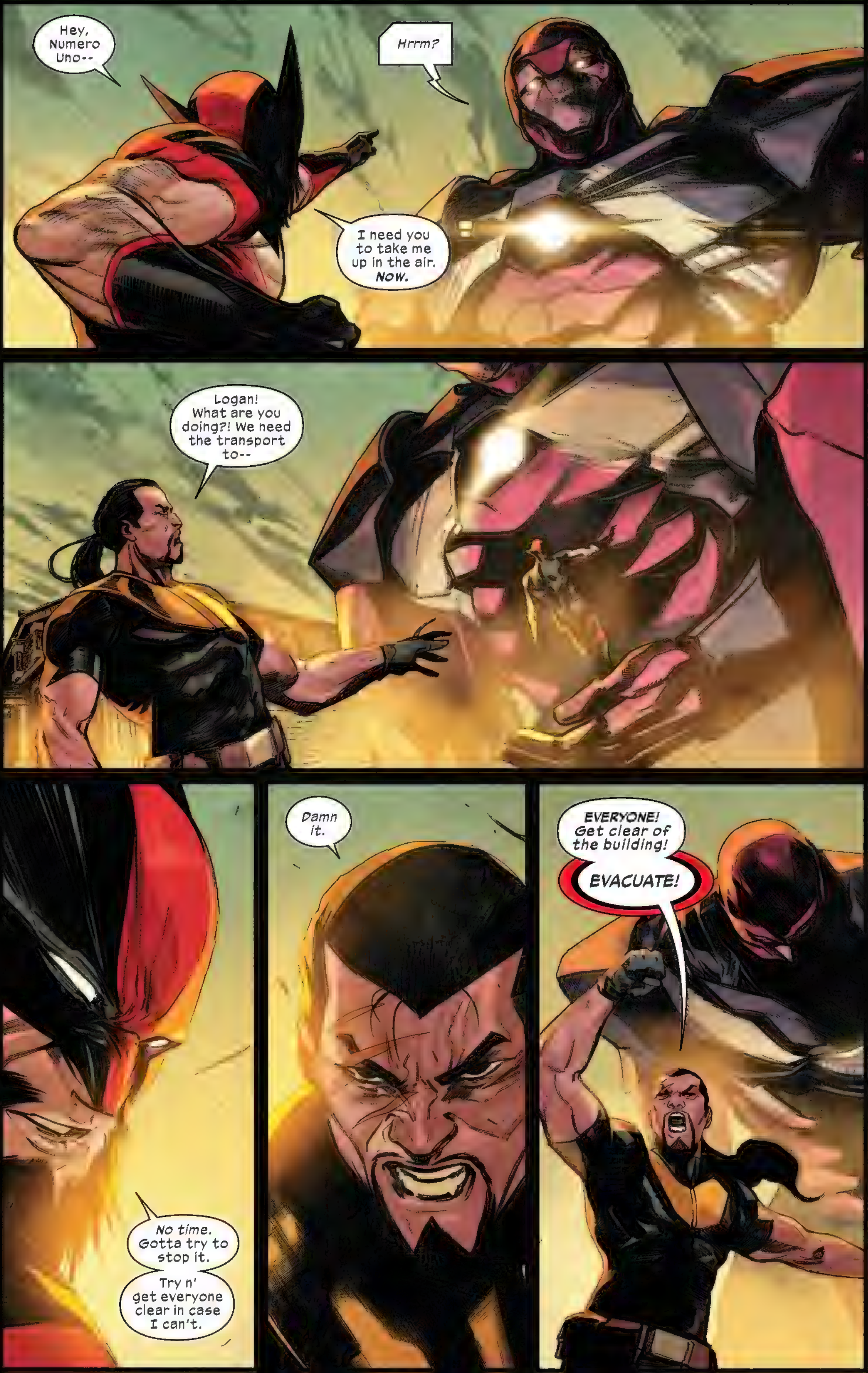

The package is secure.
This is the *Cerebomb*--a psionic weapon made from a telepath's brain--and it's *one of a kind.* Capable of getting by any defenses a mutant may generate.
We have selected our best and brightest for this mission--Lermontov and Turgenev--as there is *no room* for failure. They are to hit the target. They are to *destroy* the target. The target: *the Opposition.*
This operation is codenamed "Serpent Hunt." It is known only to those of us standing here.
Known only to our Leaders and yourselves...are the contents of this envelope.
These...are your *coordinates.* Lock them in.
Leader Illyana will open a portal. You will fly into it. She will drop you into enemy airspace. You *will* get the jump on them. You *will* drop the bomb. Then you are home free.
Remember, this is an *untested* weapon.
We have only one and--I...I do not know the terminology, but...maintain height and leave...*quickly*... We do not know the strength of the...
...*blast.*

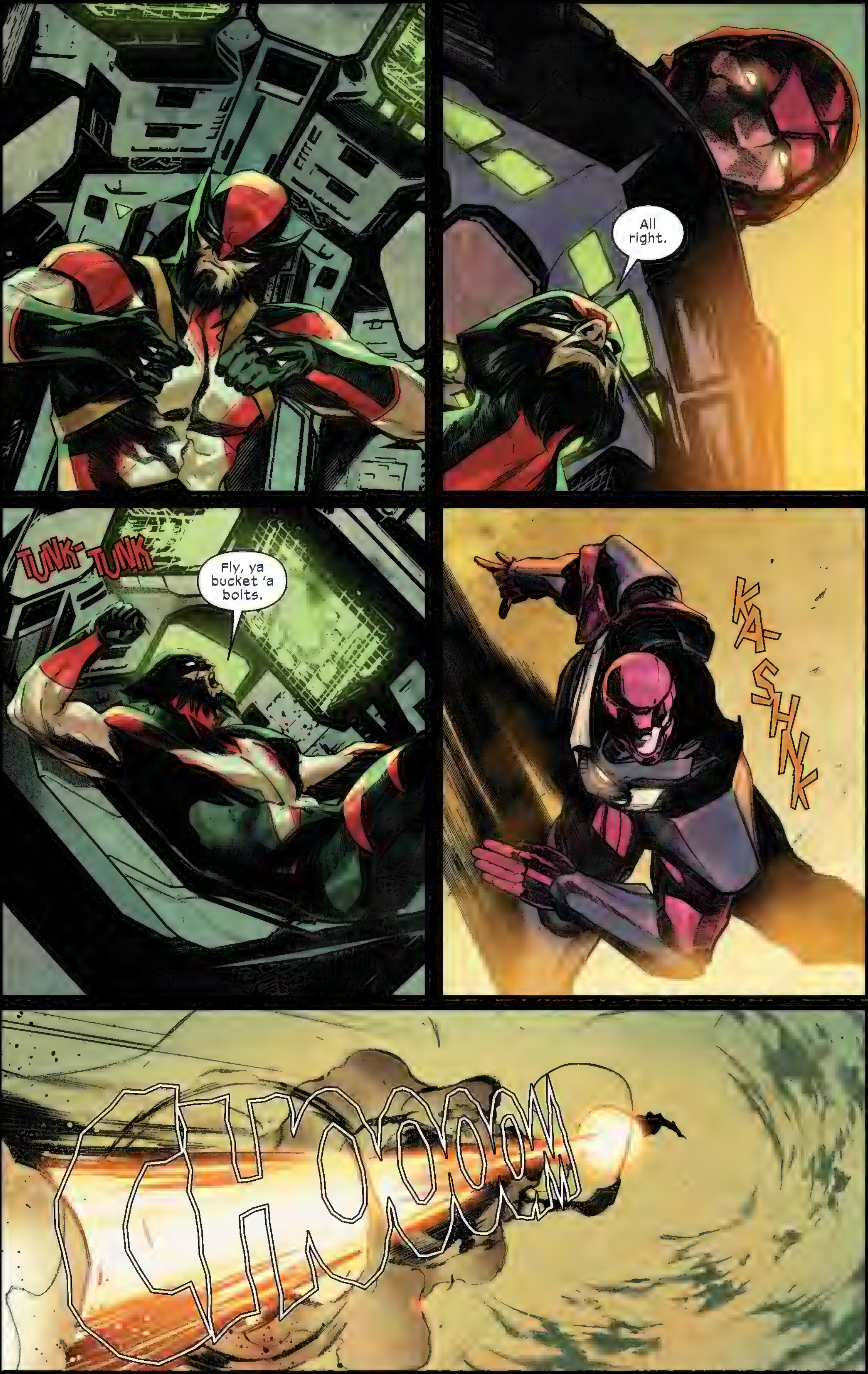

Chernihiv, Southwestern E.R., Temporary Base of Operations for the Opposition.
BRRIIING BRRIIING--
Allo... You know da time, yeah?
Mmhm. Now we cookin' wit grease. Who dis?
Logan! Somebody on da phone wanna speak wit you!
Yeah?
Phone rang. For you.
Hello? Who's--?

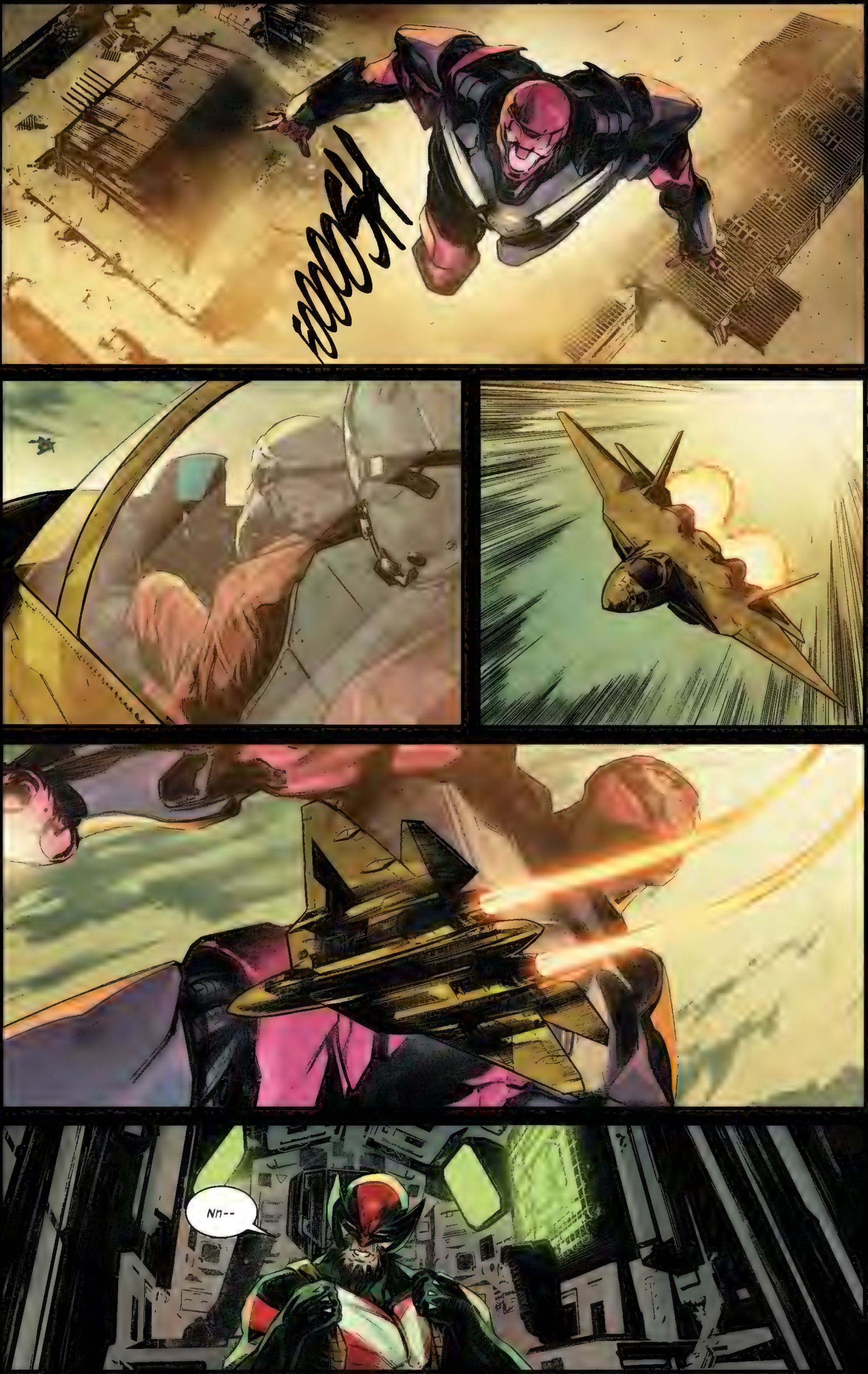

It's me. *Victor.* Wanted to lie low, wait a bit. Just in case...
Victor. [redacted]. I thought you n' the kids got caught in the--
Nah... we made it. Just.
Saw Mikhail's little message to the world, saw you guys made it too.
Things are gettin' crazy out there... Crazier than usual...
Yeah...
I still don't know if that *revealin'* gamble was the right one...
You've always been a lone wolf...
Look, I got Rossovich. Took 'is head clean off with that blade ya gave t' me, n' I think Mikhail's on a victory lap for hisself 'cause of it.
Shouldn't be... These Rasputins ain't the quittin' type. He hit 'em hard. Made 'em look like a buncha fools...*weak.* Got their country turnin' on 'em...*the world...* all at the hands of their own brother...
They ain't gon' let that slide, Victor.

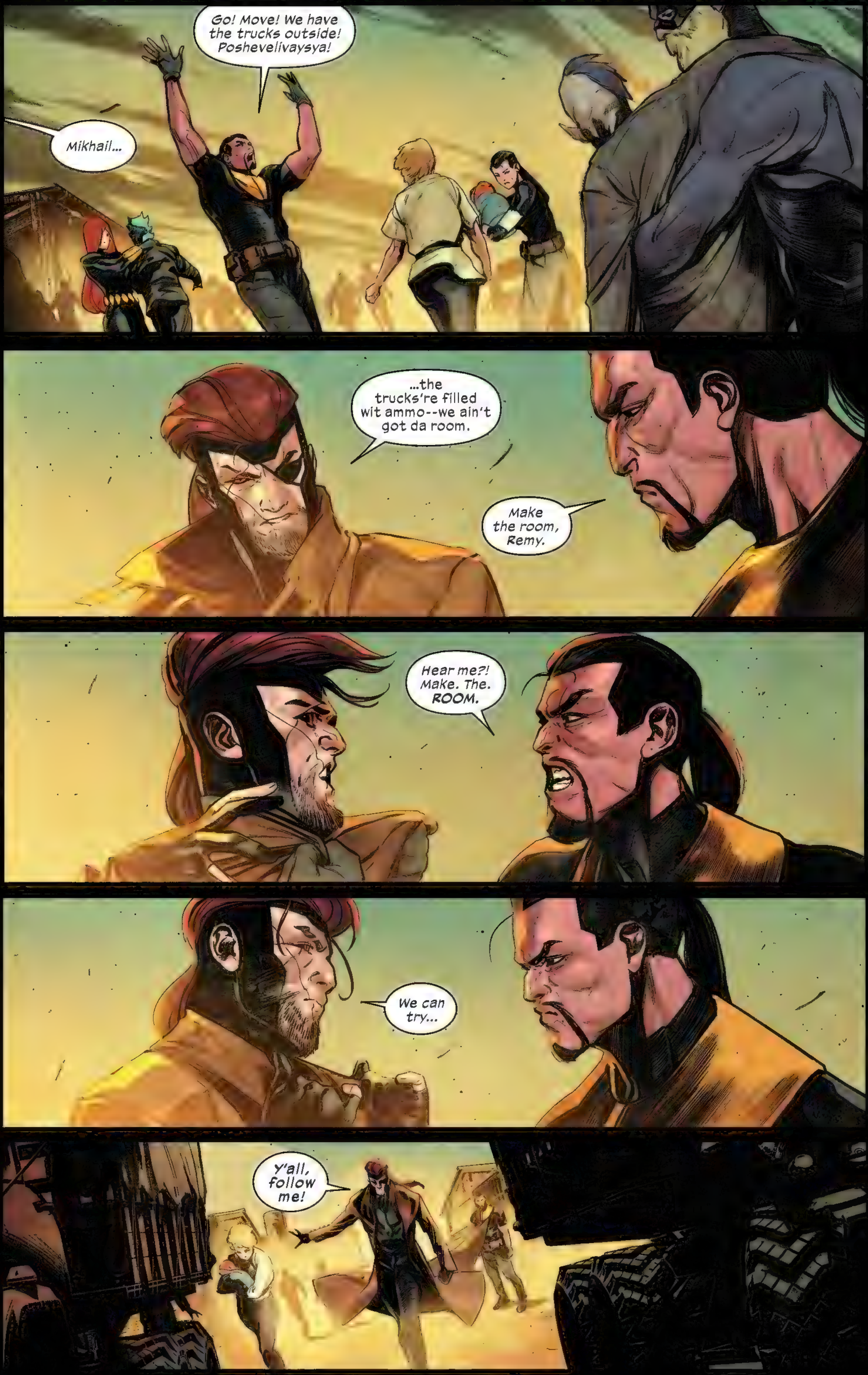

He's their brother. You don't think he knows them better than you? An outsider lookin' in?
Ahh... Of course he knows 'em. That's not the point. He's gettin' cocky, Victor. Y'know what that means?
He's gettin' sloppy.
KUNK
That's [redacted] right. I don't think we should stay here. We gotta keep movin'. There ain't no tellin' what the Republic knows, I--
What, ya think there's a rat?
I think... I don't know what I think.
Maybe not. Probably not. I worry sometimes they took stuff...people, places. I worry they took it outta...outta my brain. Outta someone else's. Tracked us somehow...
SNFF

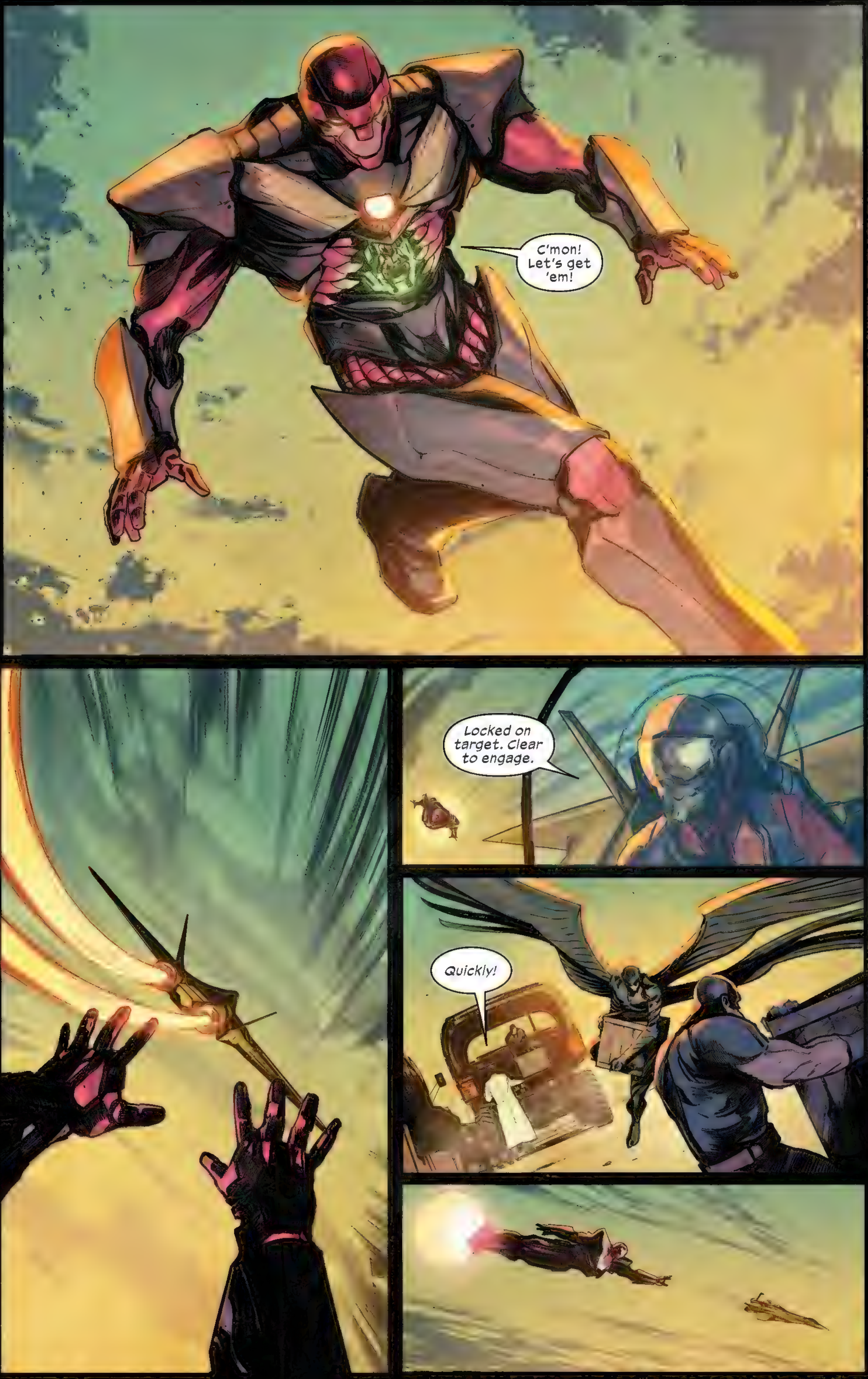

SHOOOOOM
Wh-wh-what the h-h-hell is th-that?
Bomb.
They know we're here n' they got a bomb! Evacuate! EVACUATE!

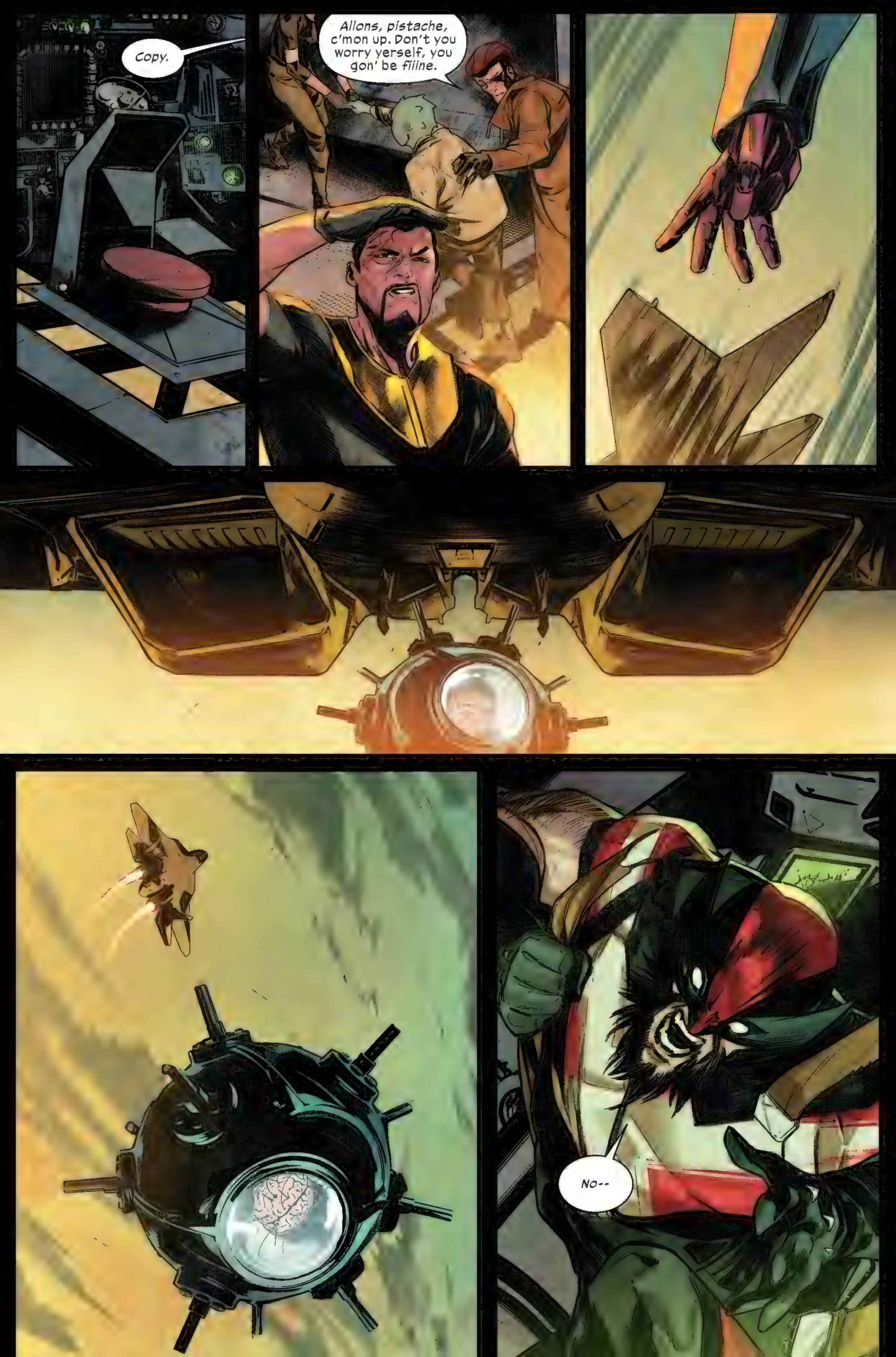

Hey, Numero Uno--
Hrrm?
I need you to take me up in the air. *NOW.*
Logan! What are you doing?! We need the transport to--
No time. Gotta try to stop it.
Try n' get everyone clear in case I can't.
Damn it.
EVERYONE! Get clear of the building!
EVACUATE!

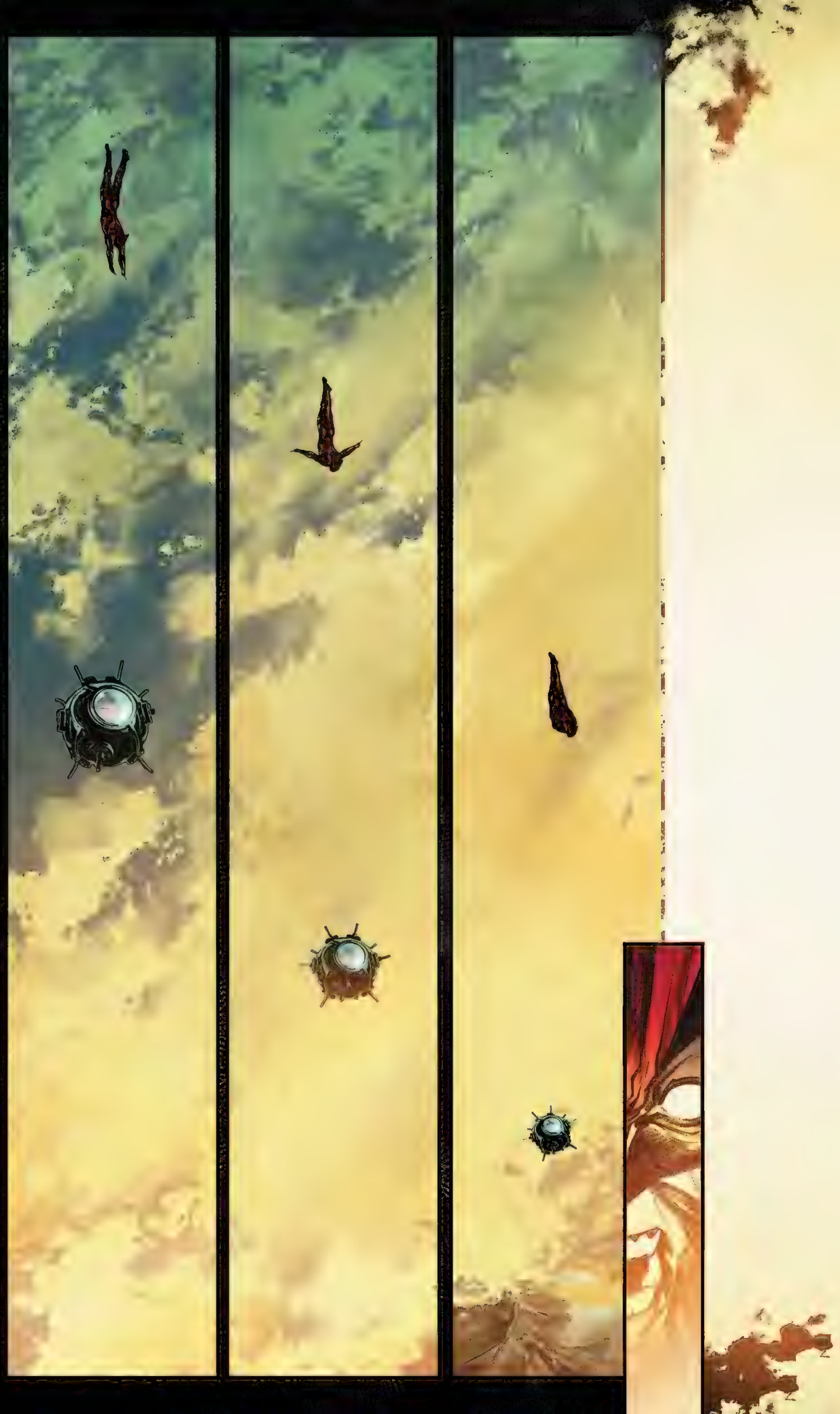

All right.
TUNK-TUNK
Fly, ya bucket 'a bolts.
KA-SHNK
CHOOOOM

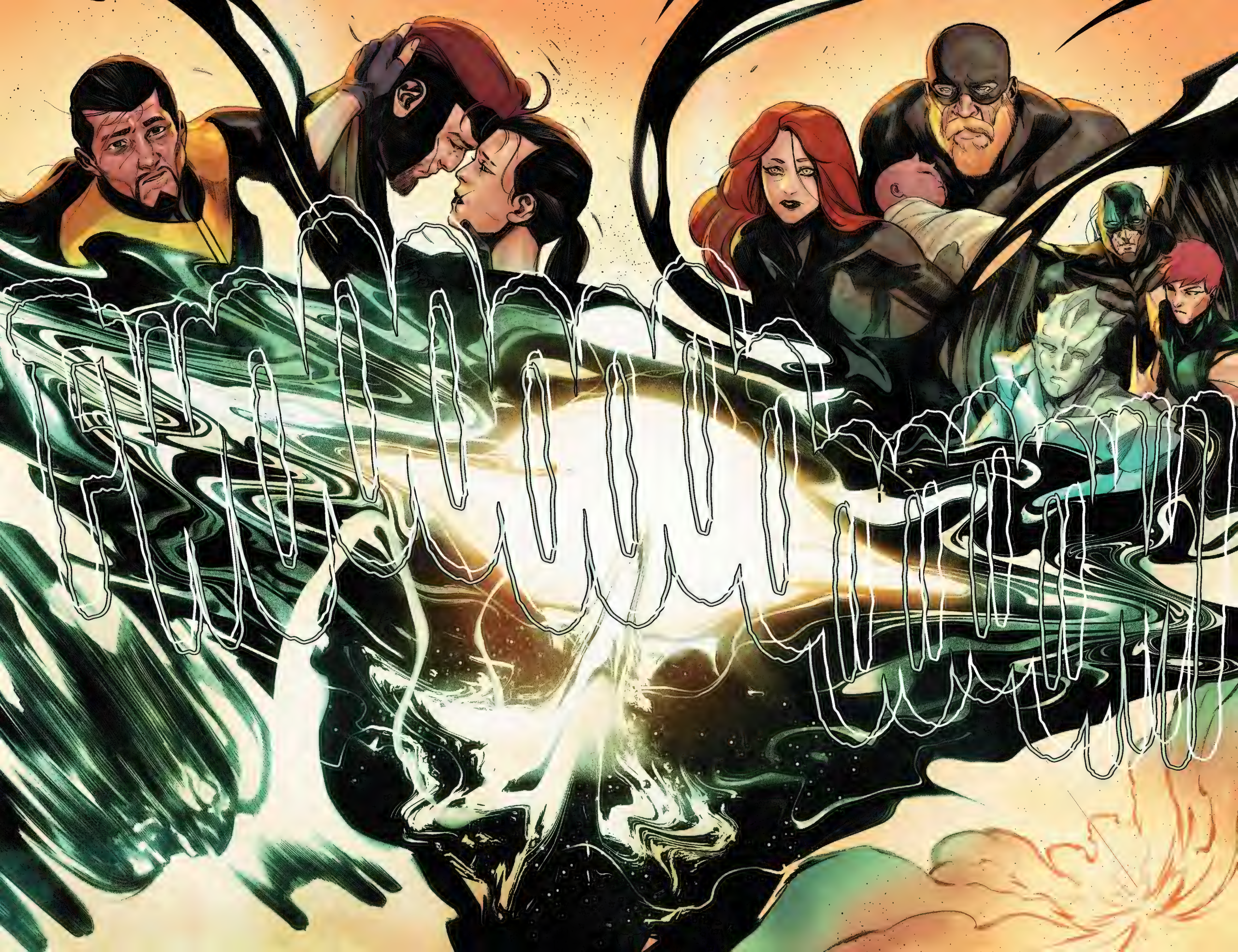

SWOOOSH
Nn--

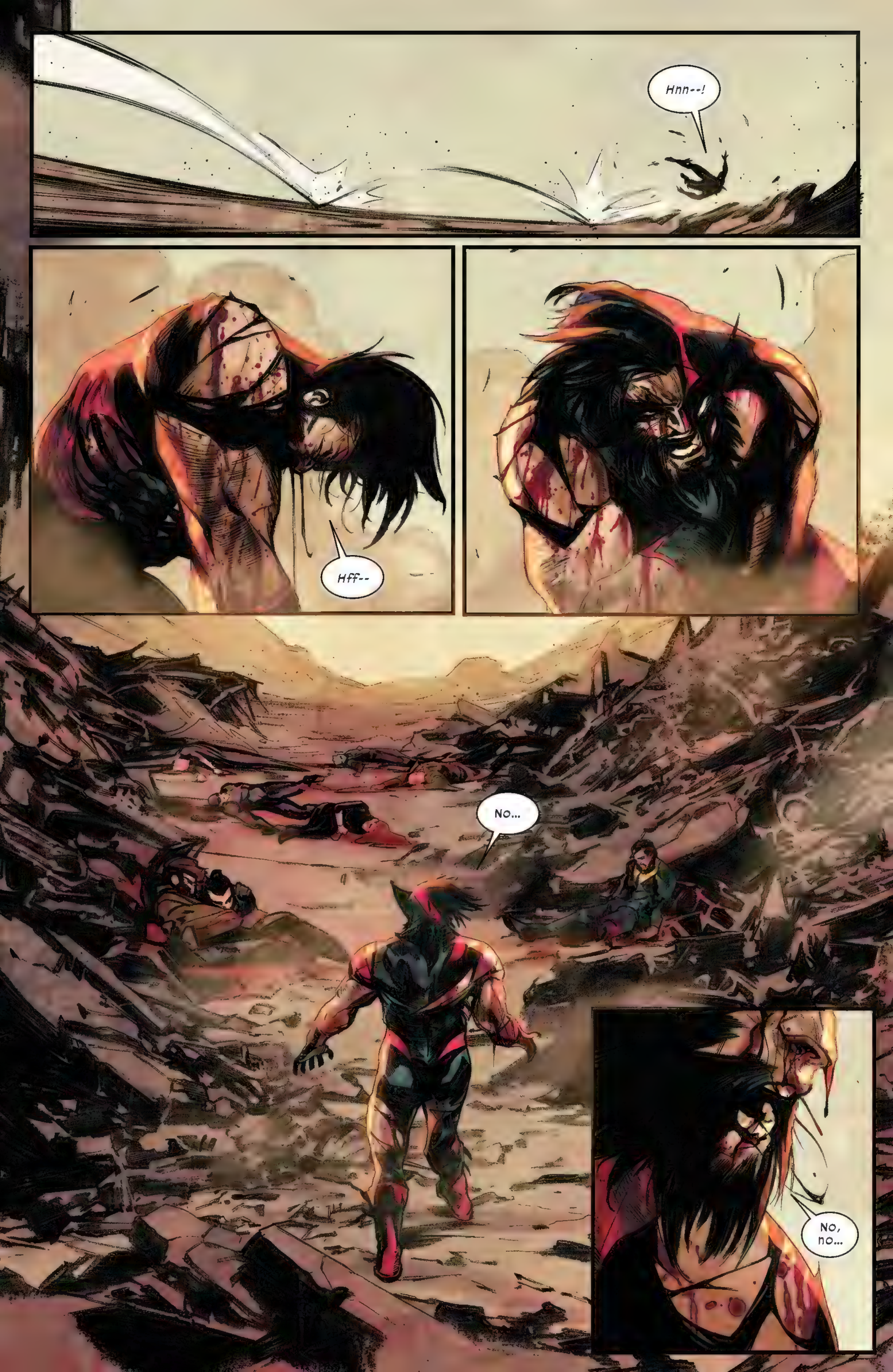

Go! Move! We have the trucks outside! Poshevelivaysya!
Mikhail...
...the trucks're filled wit ammo--we ain't got da room.
Make the room, Remy.
Hear me?! Make. The. ROOM.
We can try...
Y'all, follow me!

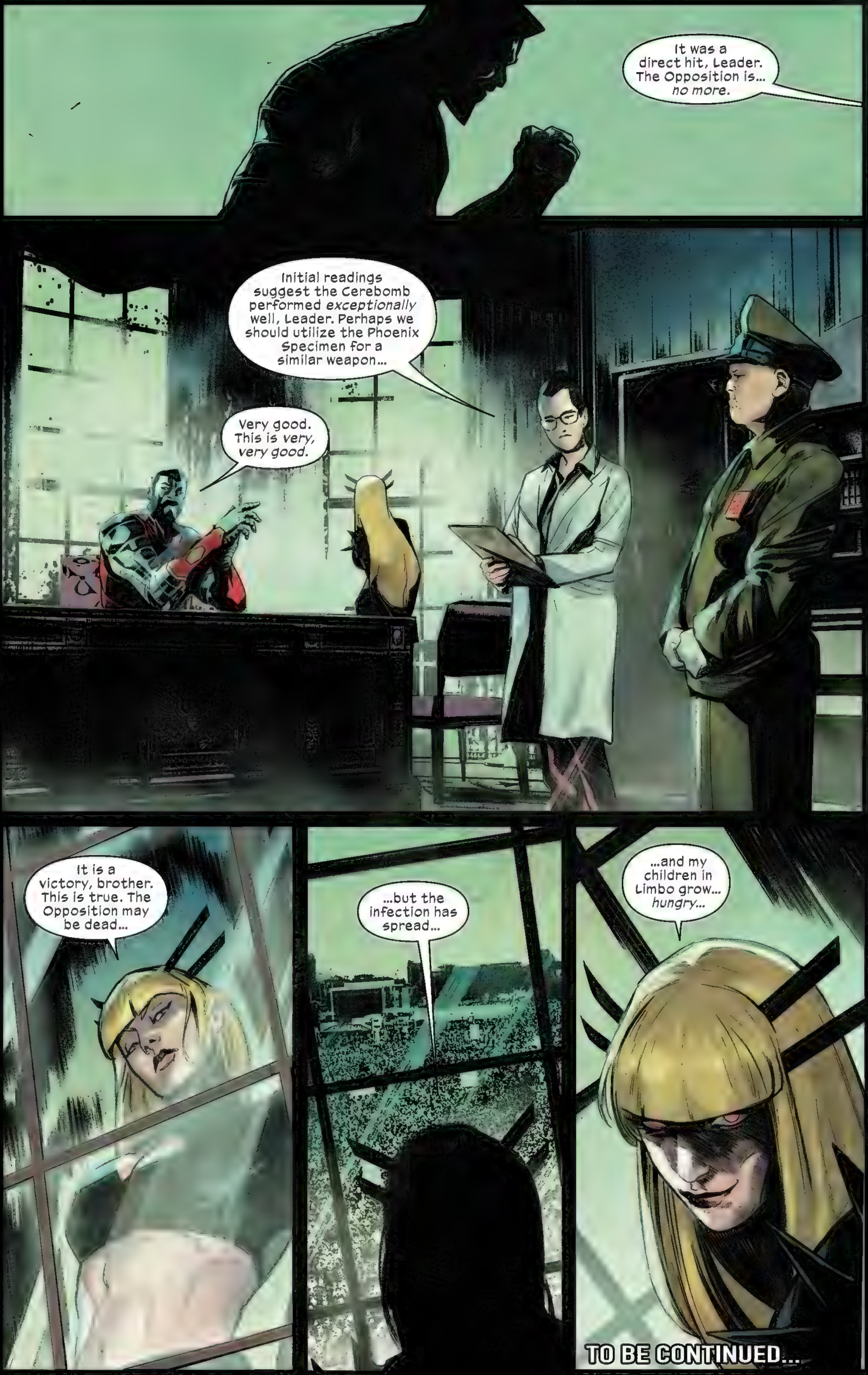

C'mon! Let's get 'em!
Locked on target. Clear to engage.
Quickly!


Copy.
Allons, pistache, c'mon up. Don't you worry yerself, you gon' be fiiine.
No--






Hnn--!
Hff--
No...
No, no...


It was a direct hit, Leader. The Opposition is... *no more.*
Initial readings suggest the Cerebomb performed *exceptionally* well, Leader. Perhaps we should utilize the Phoenix Specimen for a similar weapon...
Very good. This is *very, very good.*
It is a victory, brother. This is true. The Opposition may be dead...
...but the infection has spread...
...and my children in Limbo grow... *hungry...*
TO BE CONTINUED...

Home Insurance
STACK AND SAVE

BREAKING NEWS ***EXCLUSIVE***

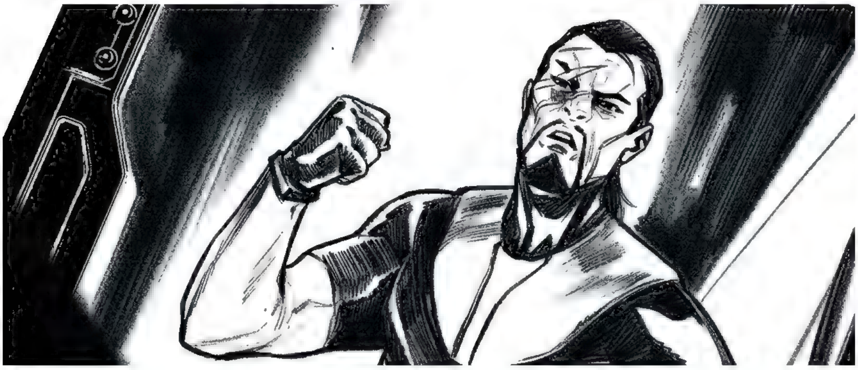
READ THE LATEST ON Page 8

MIKHAIL RASPUTIN ALIVE

UNREST GROWS ACROSS EURASIAN REPUBLIC, LEADERS SILENT

Published November 12, 2025, 1:35 p.m. ET

❝ 426K Comments



ONLINE PHOTOS EMERGE OF MIKHAIL RASPUTIN ALIVE AND WELL

Uncertainty has given way to unrest in the Eurasian Republic following the shocking revelation that Mikhail Rasputin, the former leader of the Eurasian Republic and brother to Leaders Piotr and Illyana Rasputin, is alive and has been acting as the secretive figurehead behind the Opposition force, which the E.R. leaders have classified as a terrorist group.

This earth-shattering discovery has shaken the E.R. to its core, reverberating inside and outside of government offices. Frustrated with the lack of clarity from the E.R. leaders, people have taken to the streets in protest in numbers not seen in a decade. Some within the E.R. government, speaking anonymously, have expressed worries that this rupture between the Rasputins may lead to a civil war as the struggle for power between the two factions emerged.

Mikhail Rasputin's reported death gripped the E.R. and provided rationale for the E.R. leaders' crackdown on political dissidence to quell more potential violence. But with Mikhail Rasputin's death revealed to be a hoax, people dissatisfied with the Rasputin regime are making their voices heard, citing Mikhail Rasputin's own words.

While the leaders of the E.R. have not issued a statement or made any public appearances since their brother's return, troops have been dispatched throughout Moscow and several other cities in anticipation of further unrest.

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ARTIST: **ALESSANDRO CAPPUCCIO**

COLOR ARTIST: **BRYAN VALENZA**
LETTERER: **VC's CORY PETIT**
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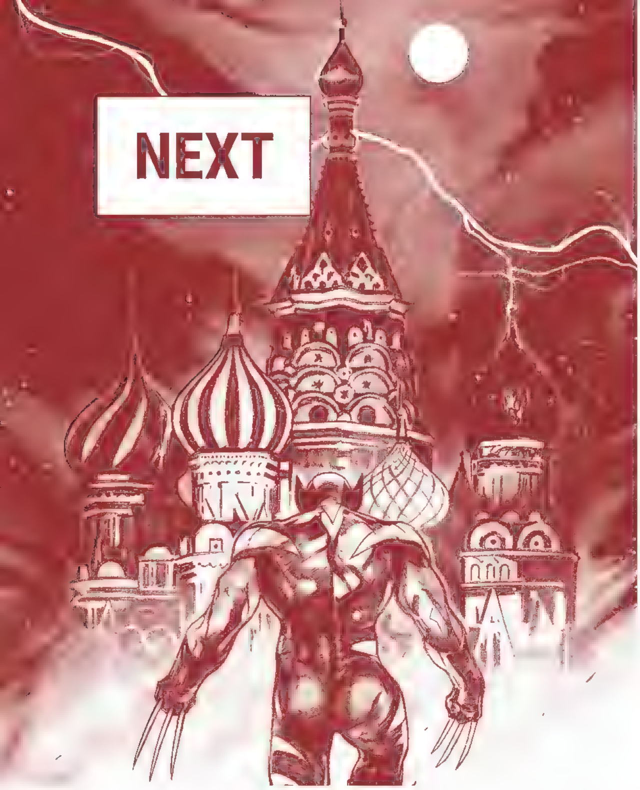

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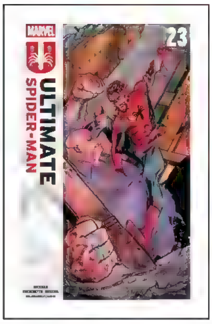
ULTIMATE
WOLVERINE
CONDON
CAPPUCCIO VALENZA

ON SALE IN **DECEMBER**

ON SALE THIS MONTH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BLACK PANTHER

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THE
ULTIMATES

ULTIMATES #18

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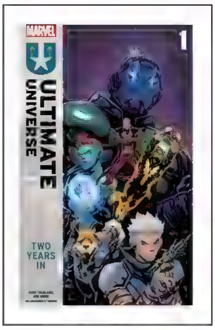
ON SALE NEXT MONTH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23

A diabolical genius known as **THE MAKER** created his ideal Earth by systematically preventing anyone from ever becoming a super hero. To rule his perfected Earth, he placed super villains in charge of different regions, and together, **THE MAKER'S COUNCIL** quietly orchestrated the history of the world.

KING T'CHALLA of the highly advanced, isolated **WAKANDA** thought he'd triumphed over the evils of the Maker's Council. But **RA** and **KHONSHU**, the overseers of the African continent, had unlocked a larger, more dangerous power by activating **VIBRANIUM**, the element upon which Wakanda was built.

That power turned out to be the **PROGENITORS**—spirits who seek to claim the Earth for themselves. The **VODU-KHAN** betrayed the throne to serve the Progenitors...by kidnapping **STORM** and magically advancing her pregnancy to birth the prophesied **CHILD OF LIGHT**. **BAST** and **INAN** helped **KILLMONGER** and **BLACK PANTHER** rescue Storm, but they were too late! The child was already possessed by the forces that sought to conquer Wakanda and then the world...

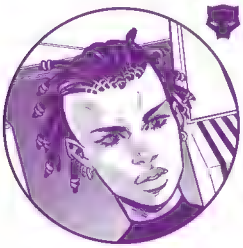
ULTIMATE BLACK PANTHER

CAST:

BLACK PANTHER
KING T'CHALLA

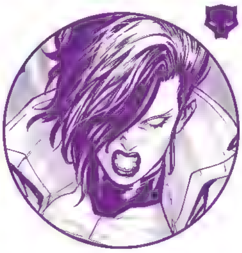
STORM
ORORO MUNROE

KILLMONGER
ERIK KILLMONGER



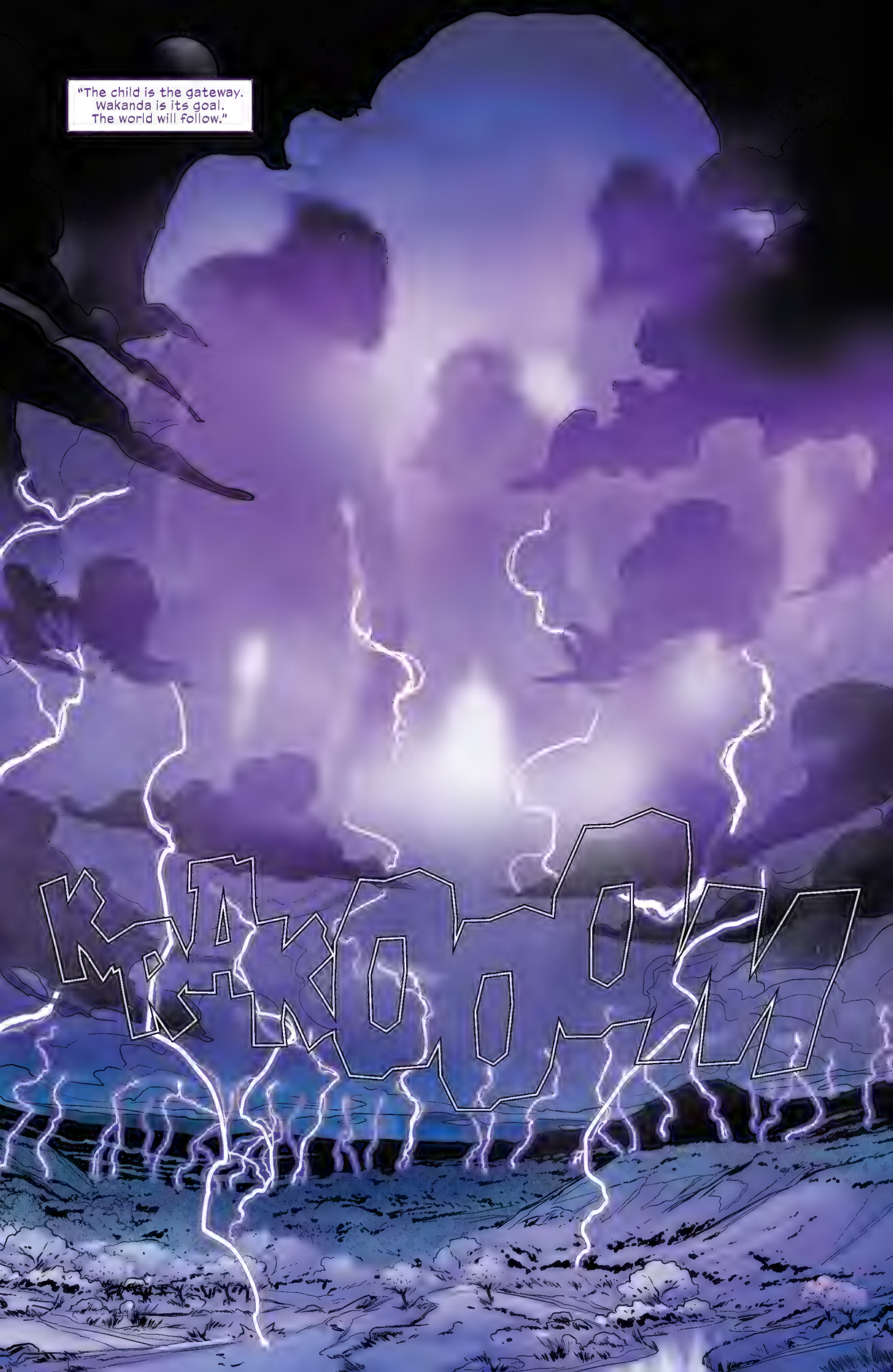
SHURI
WOMAN-AT-ARMS,
T'CHALLA'S SISTER

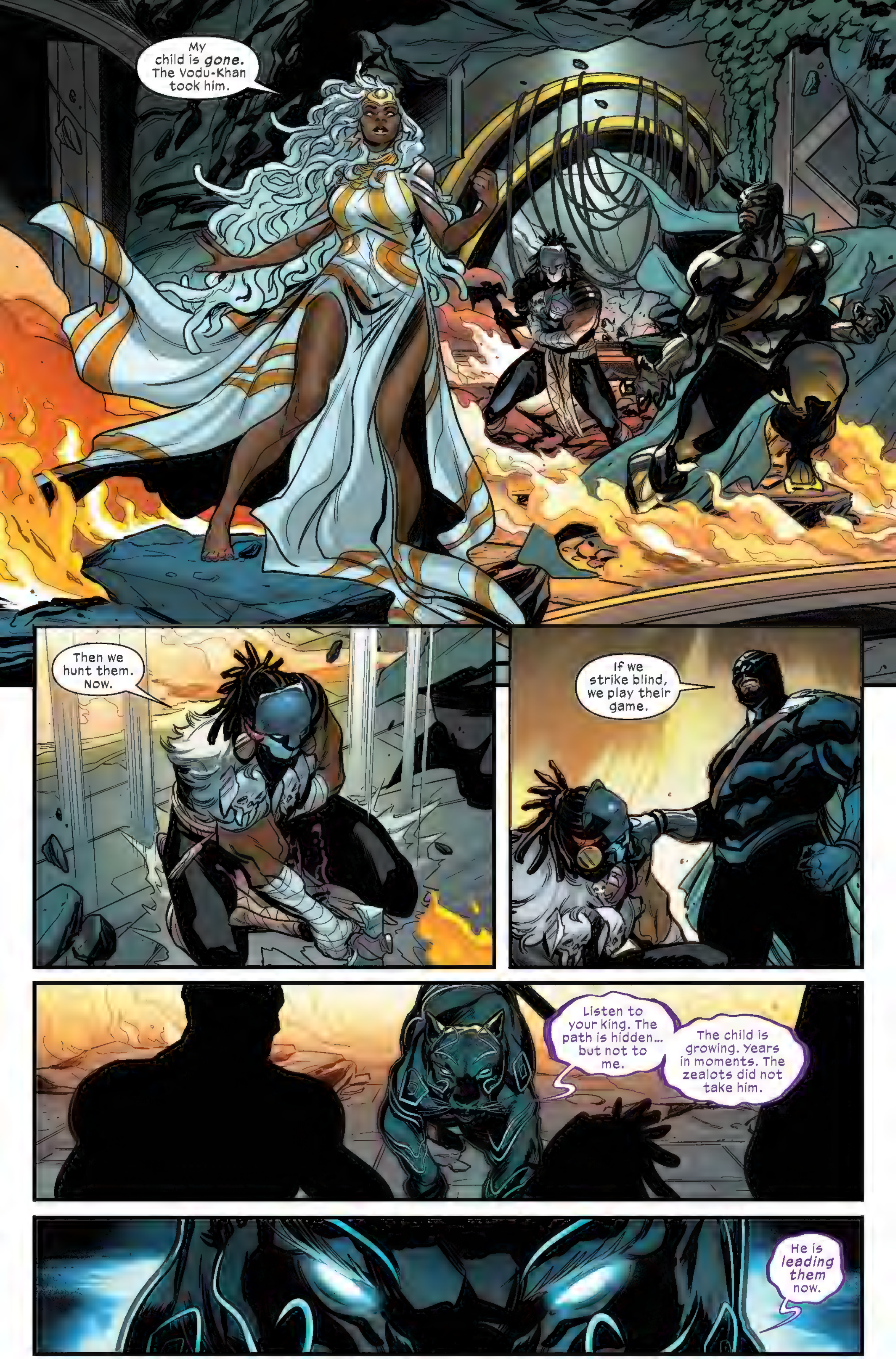
QUEEN OKOYE
HIGH MENTOR OF
THE DORA MILAJE

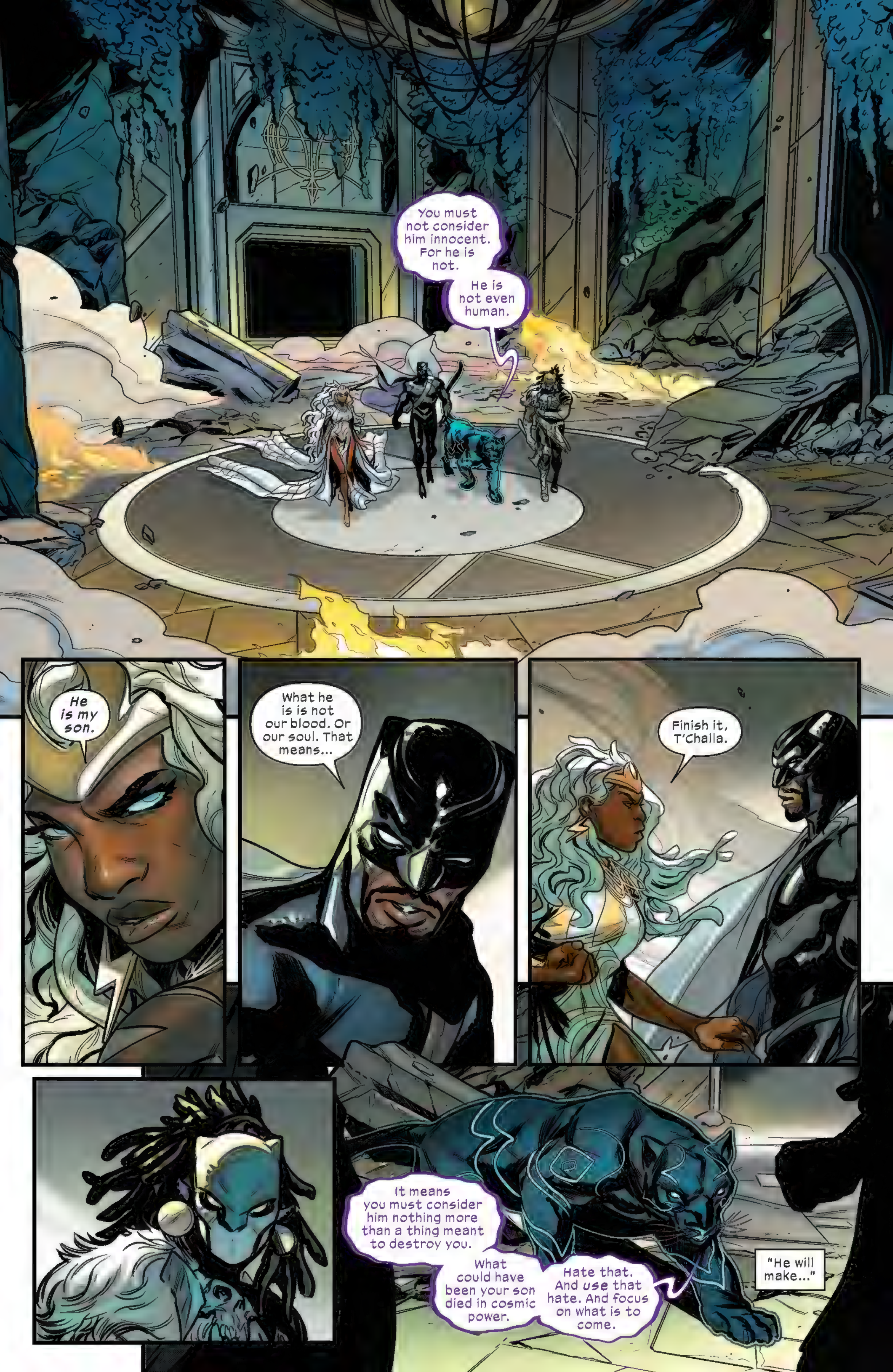


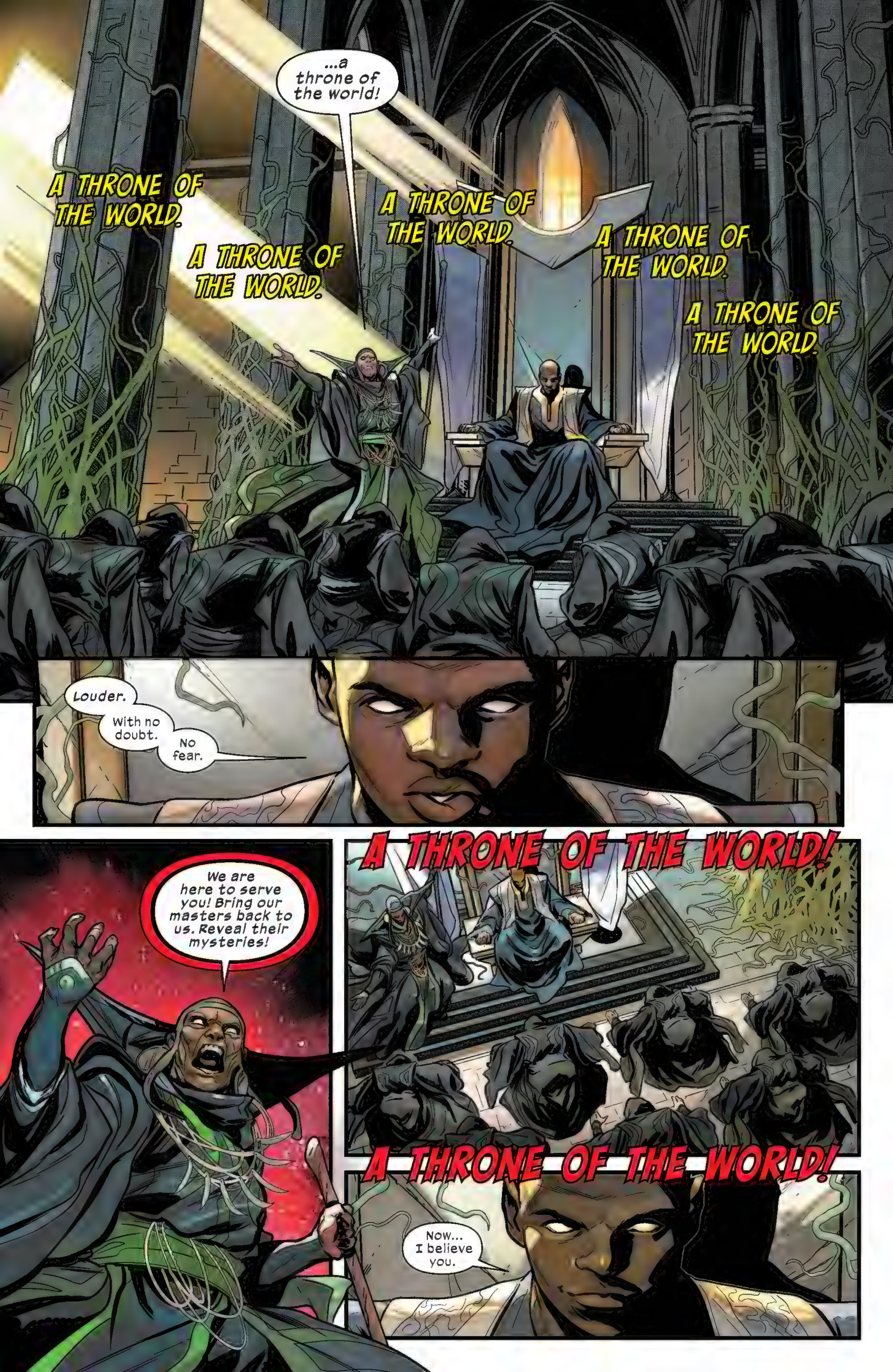
INAN
THE SORCERER
SUPREME

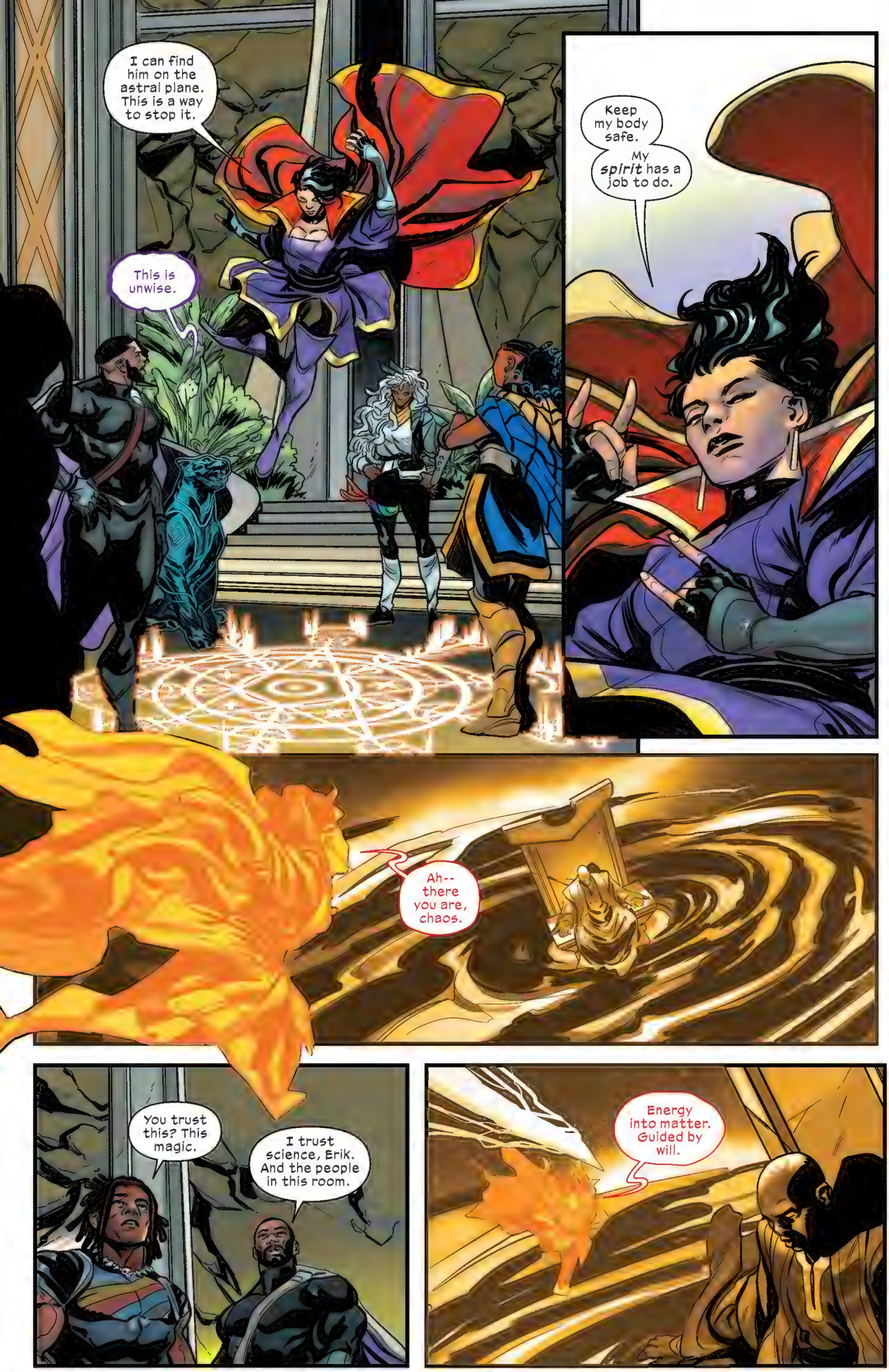
DECEMBER 2025

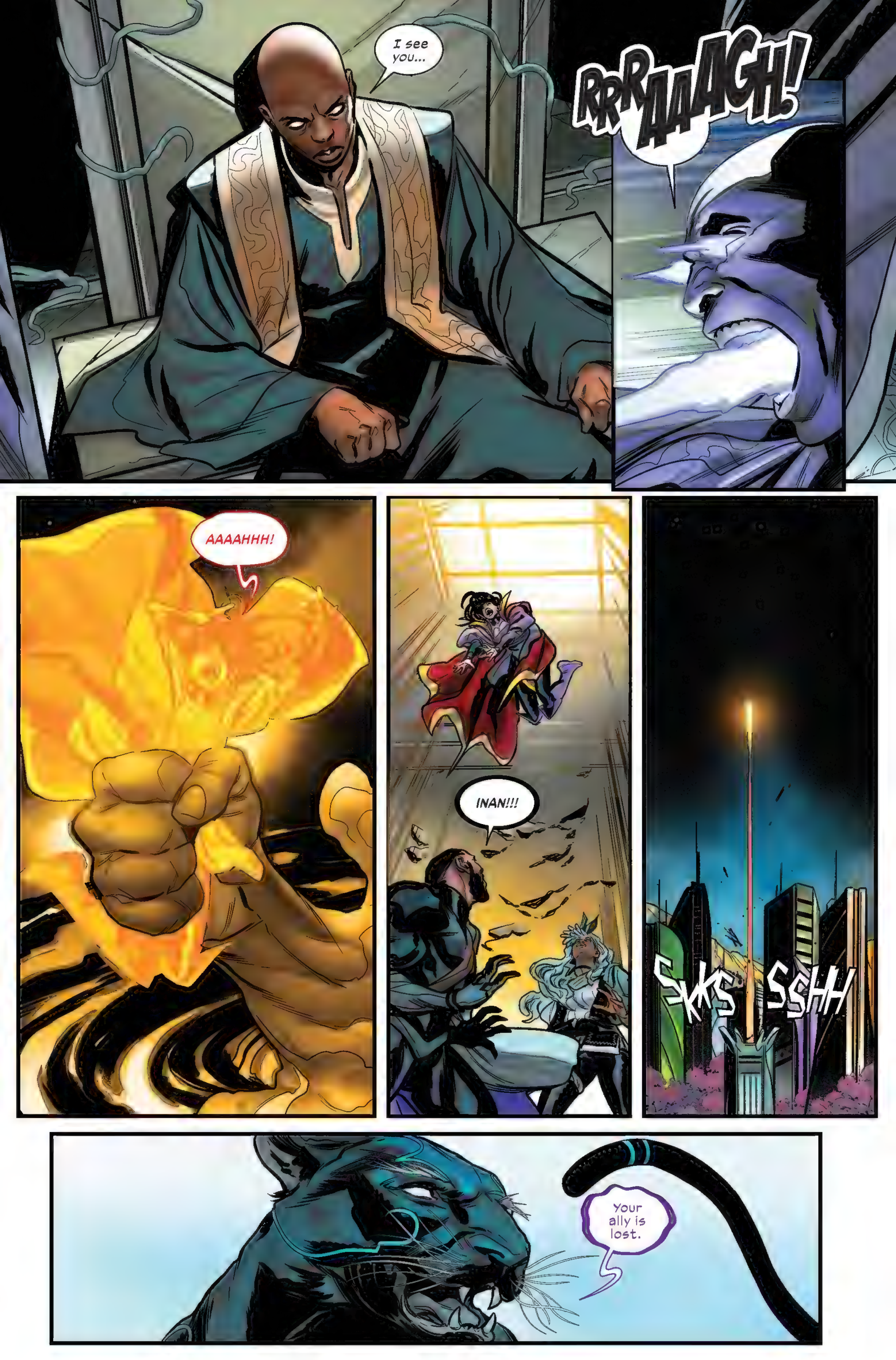

"The child is the gateway. Wakanda is its goal. The world will follow."
KAKOOOM

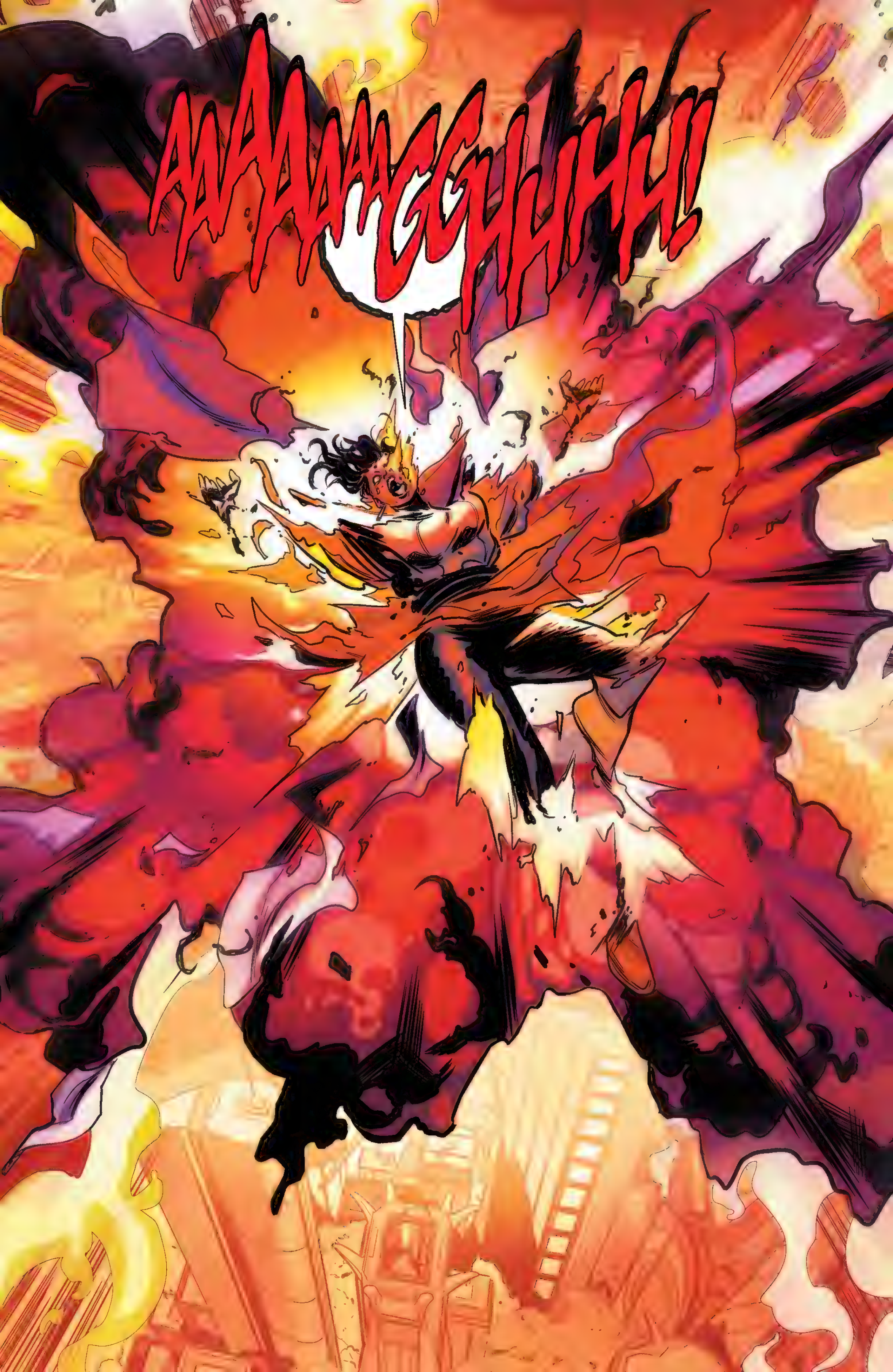

My child is *gone.* The Vodu-Khan took him.
Then we hunt them. Now.
If we strike blind, we play their game.
Listen to your king. The path is hidden... but not to me.
The child is growing. Years in moments. The zealots did not take him.
He is *leading them* now.

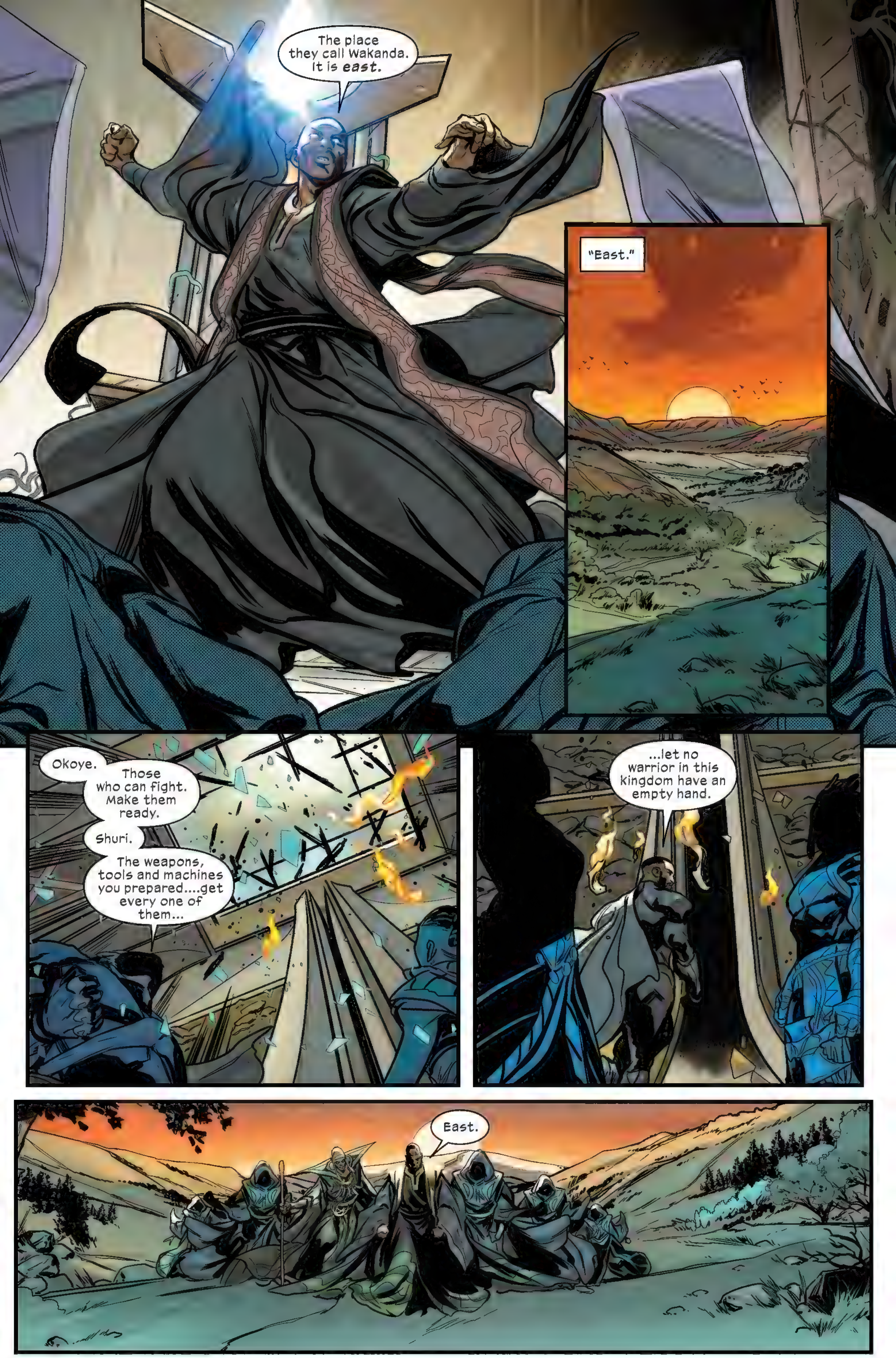

You must not consider him innocent. For he is not.
He is not even human.
He is my son.
What he is is not our blood. Or our soul. That means...
Finish it, T'Challa.
It means you must consider him nothing more than a thing meant to destroy you.
What could have been your son died in cosmic power.
Hate that. And use that hate. And focus on what is to come.
"He will make..."

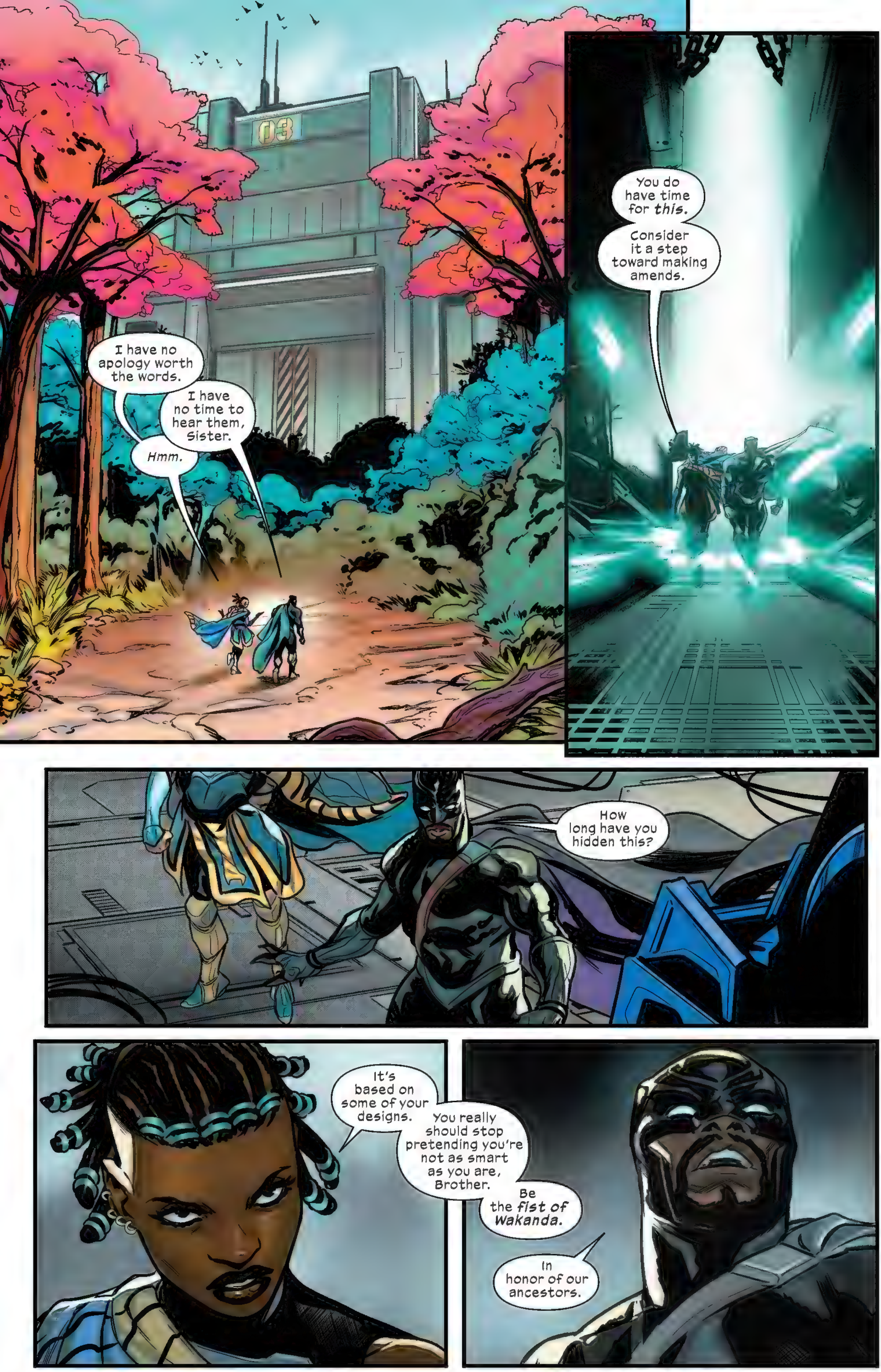

...a throne of the world!
A THRONE OF THE WORLD.
A THRONE OF THE WORLD.
A THRONE OF THE WORLD.
A THRONE OF THE WORLD.
A THRONE OF THE WORLD.
Louder.
With no doubt.
No fear.
We are here to serve you! Bring our masters back to us. Reveal their mysteries!
A THRONE OF THE WORLD!
A THRONE OF THE WORLD!
Now... I believe you.

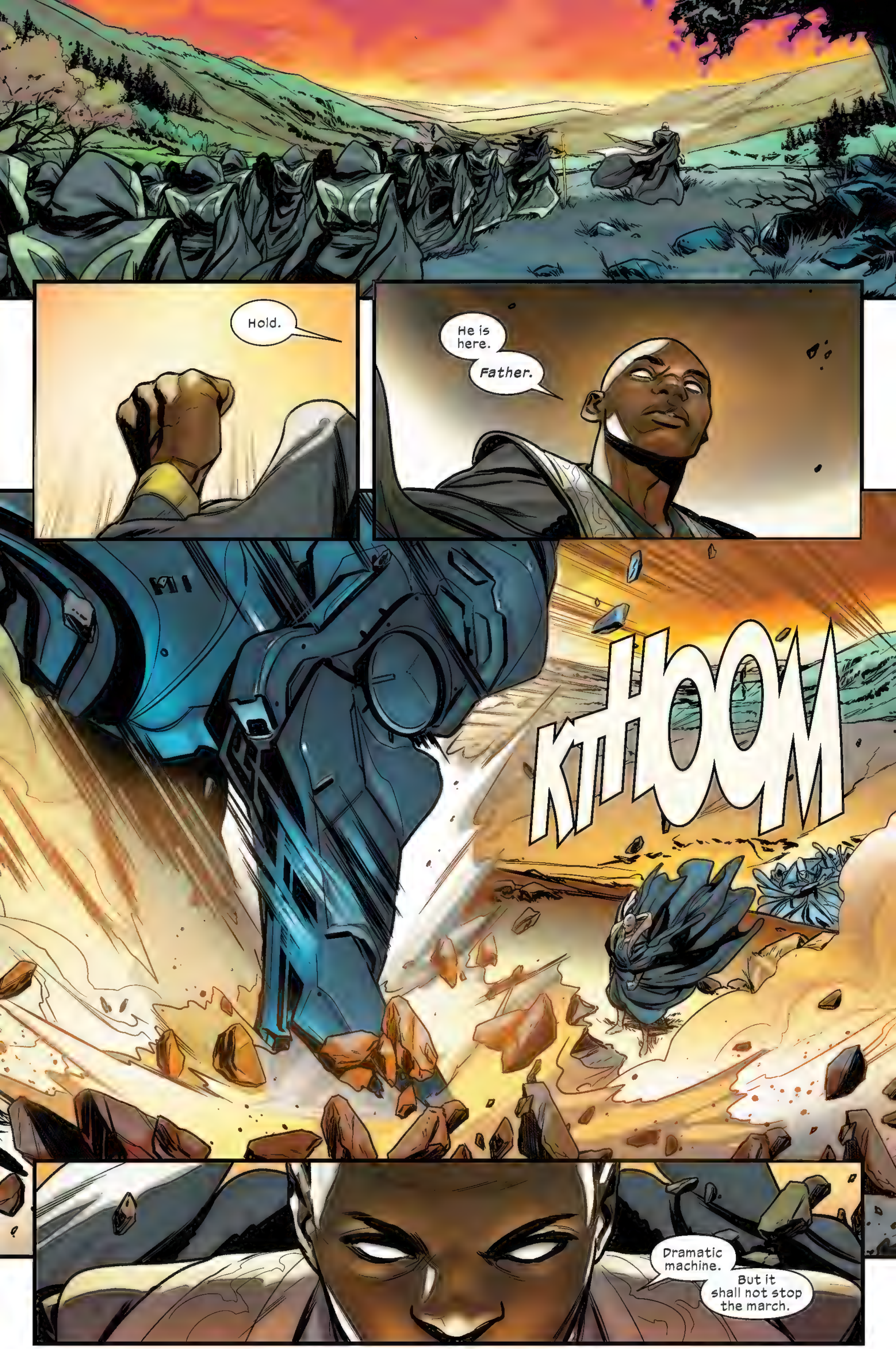

I can find him on the astral plane. This is a way to stop it.
This is unwise.
Keep my body safe.
My *spirit* has a job to do.
Ah--there you are, chaos.
You trust this? This magic.
I trust science, Erik. And the people in this room.
Energy into matter. Guided by will.

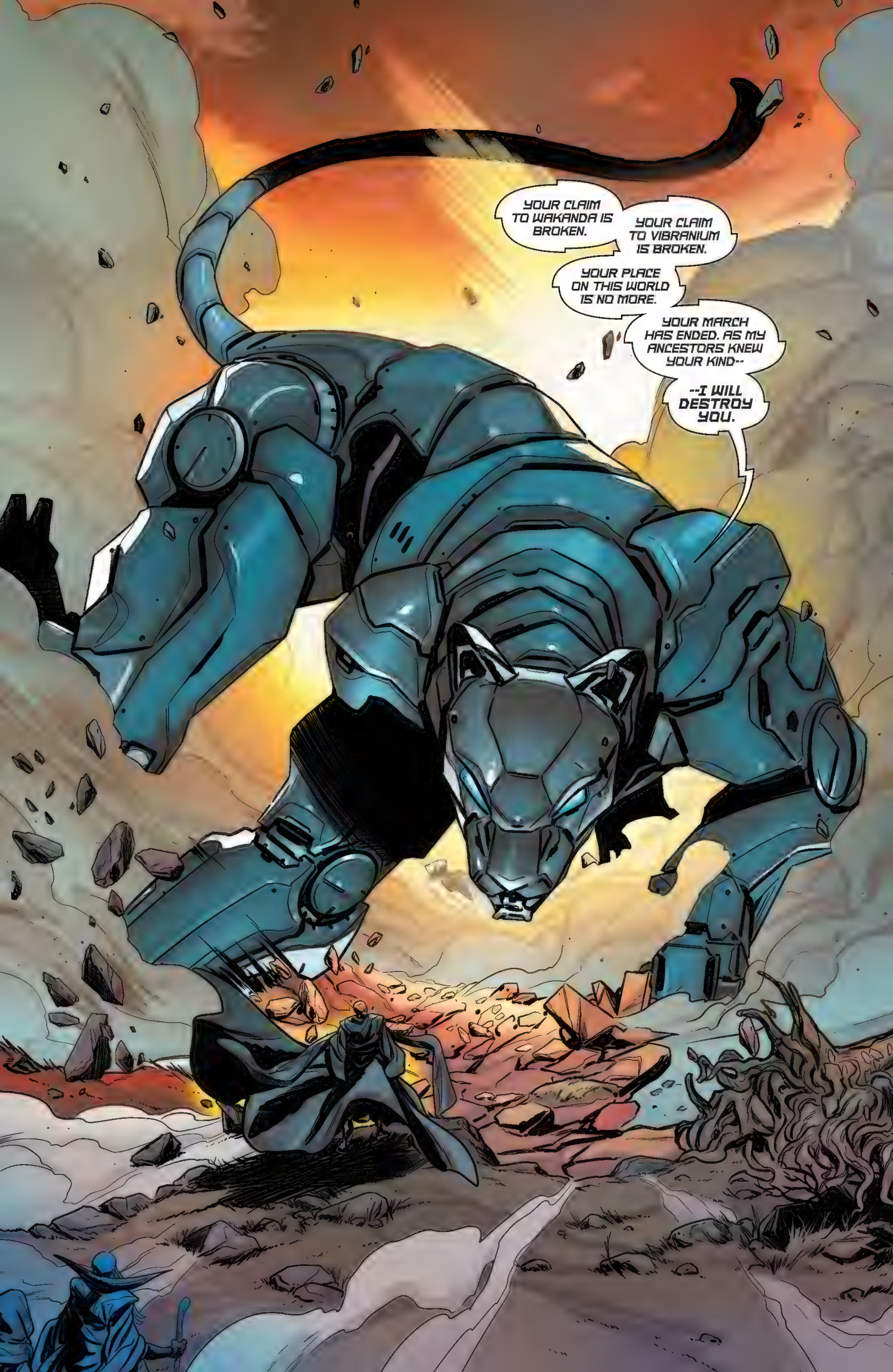

I see you...
RRRAAAGH!
AAAAHHH!
INAN!!!
SKKS SSHH
Your ally is lost.

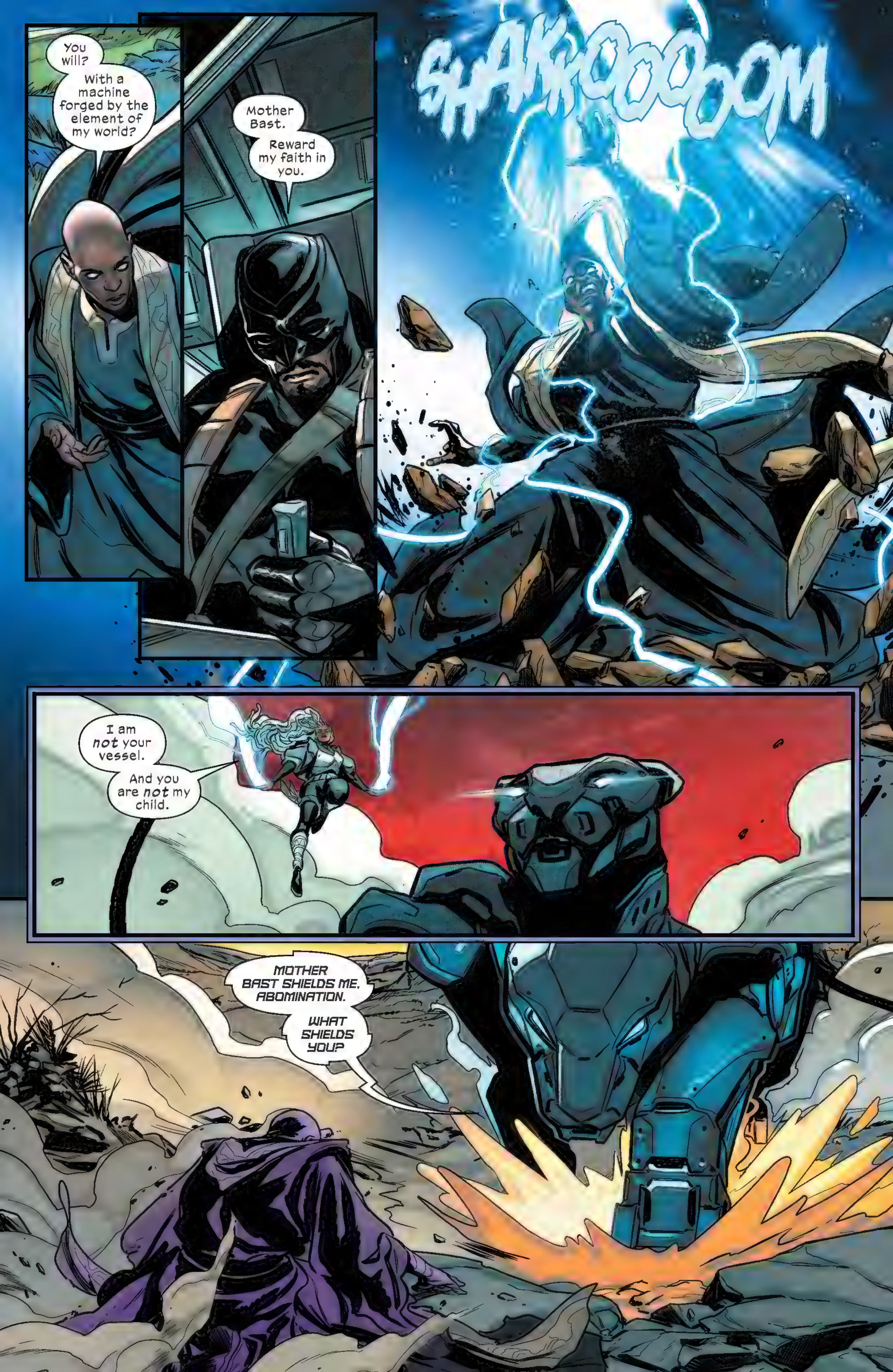

AAAAAAGGHHHH!

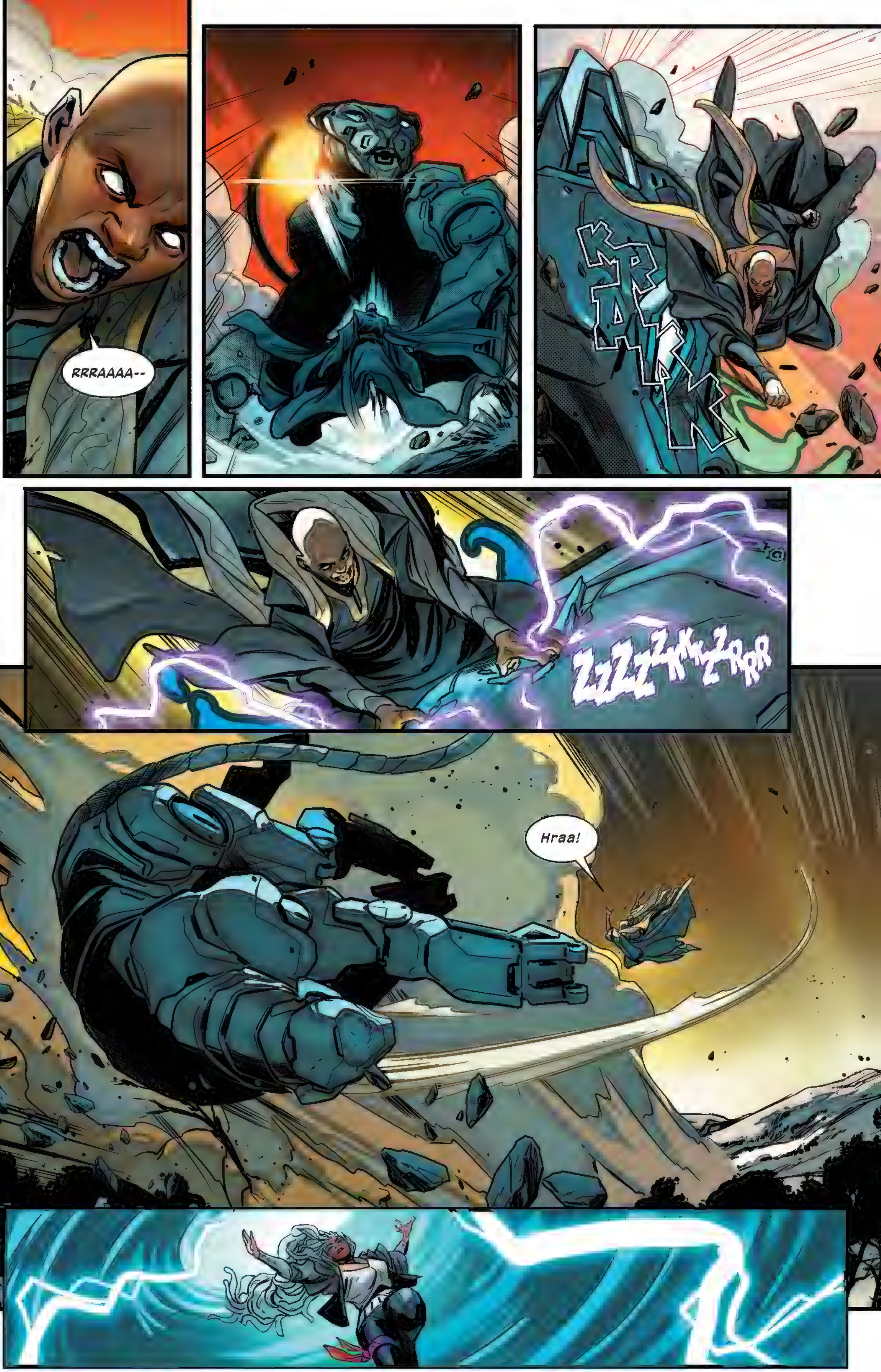

The place they call Wakanda. It is *east.*
"East."
Okoye.
Those who can fight. Make them ready.
Shuri.
The weapons, tools and machines you prepared....get every one of them...
...let no warrior in this kingdom have an empty hand.
East.

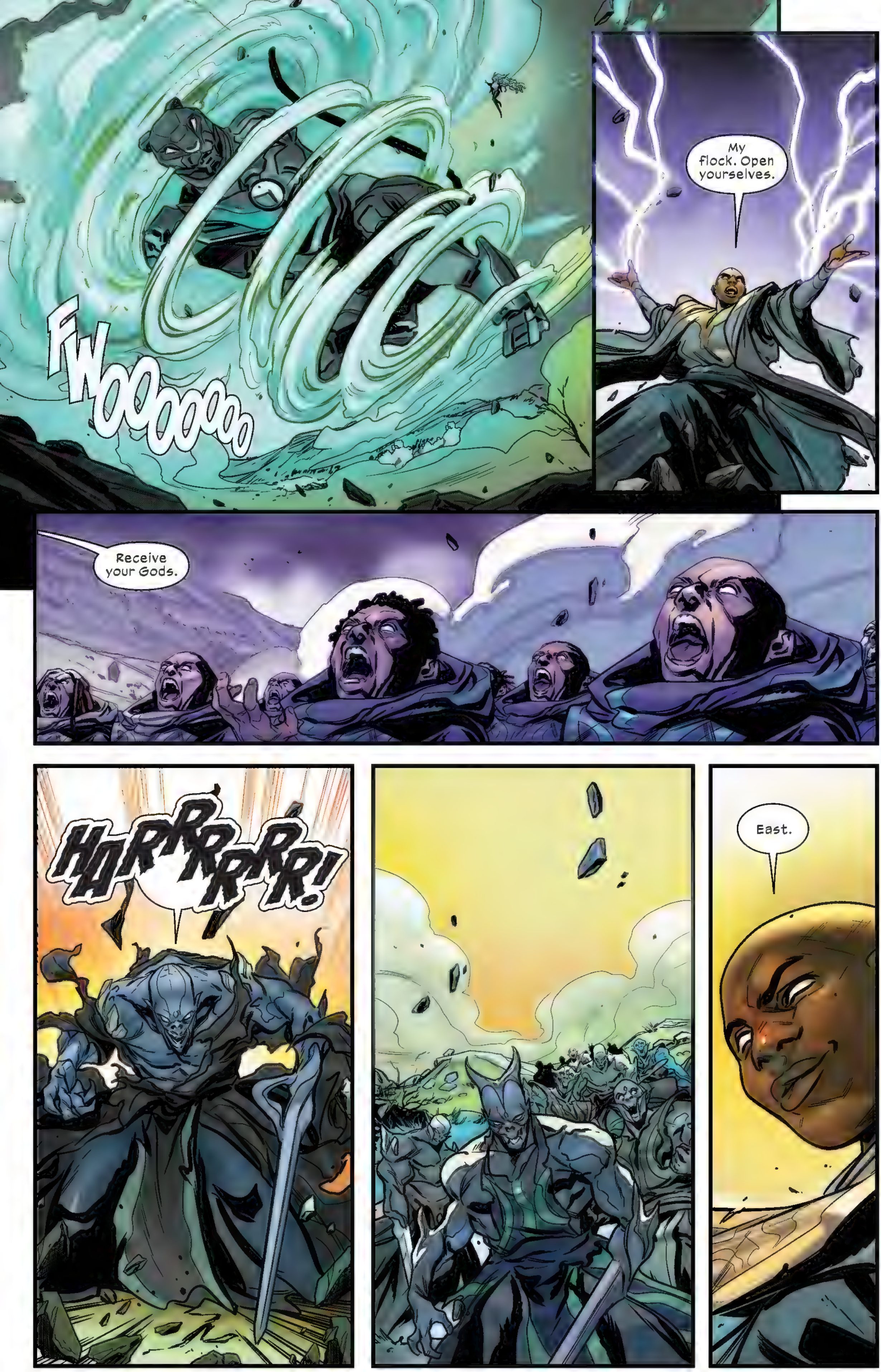

I have no apology worth the words.
I have no time to hear them, Sister.
Hmm.
You do have time for *this.*
Consider it a step toward making amends.
How long have you hidden this?
It's based on some of your designs.
You really should stop pretending you're not as smart as you are, Brother.
Be the *fist of Wakanda.*
In honor of our ancestors.

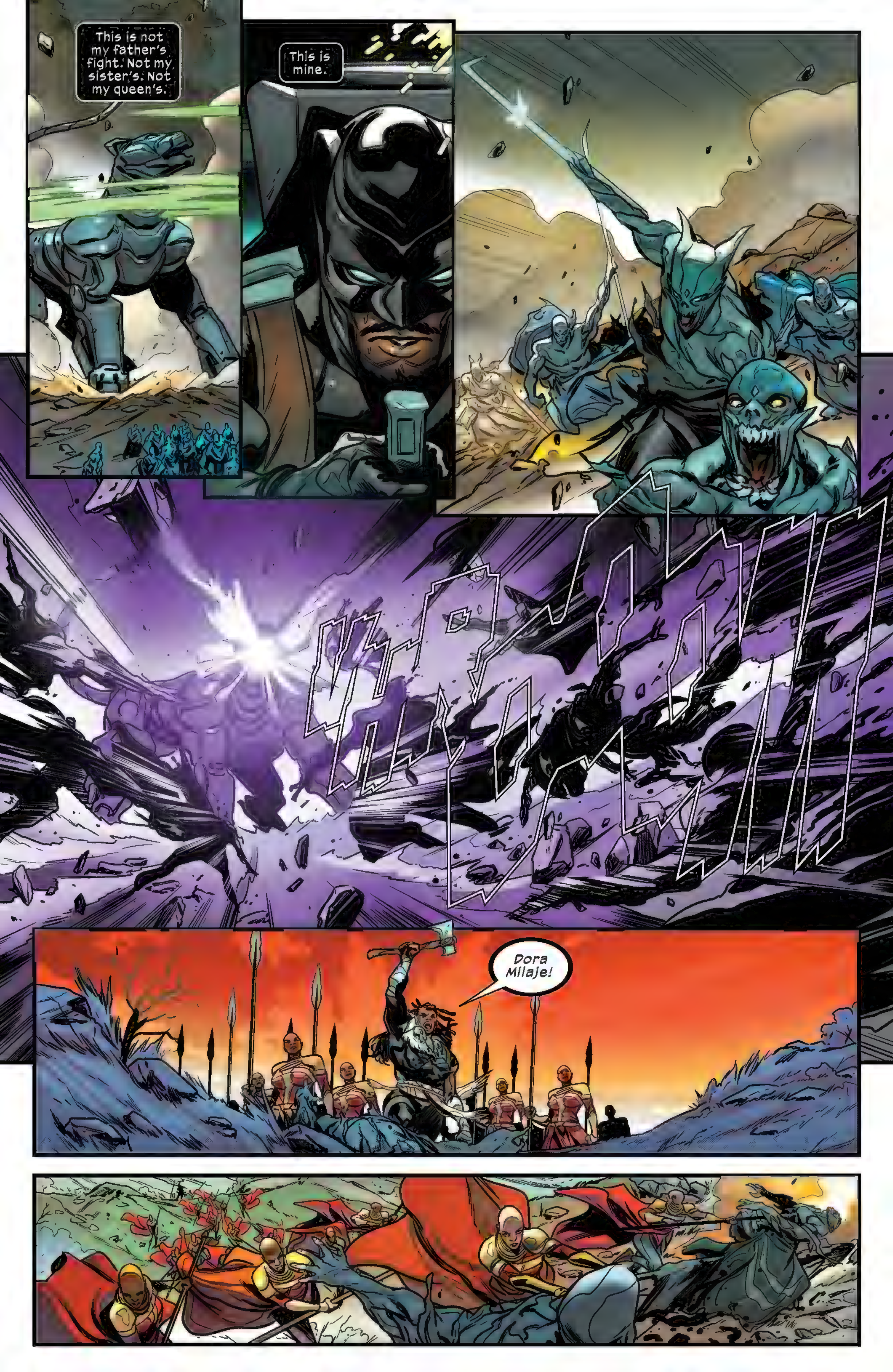

Hold.
He is here.
Father.
KTHOOM
Dramatic machine.
But it shall not stop the march.

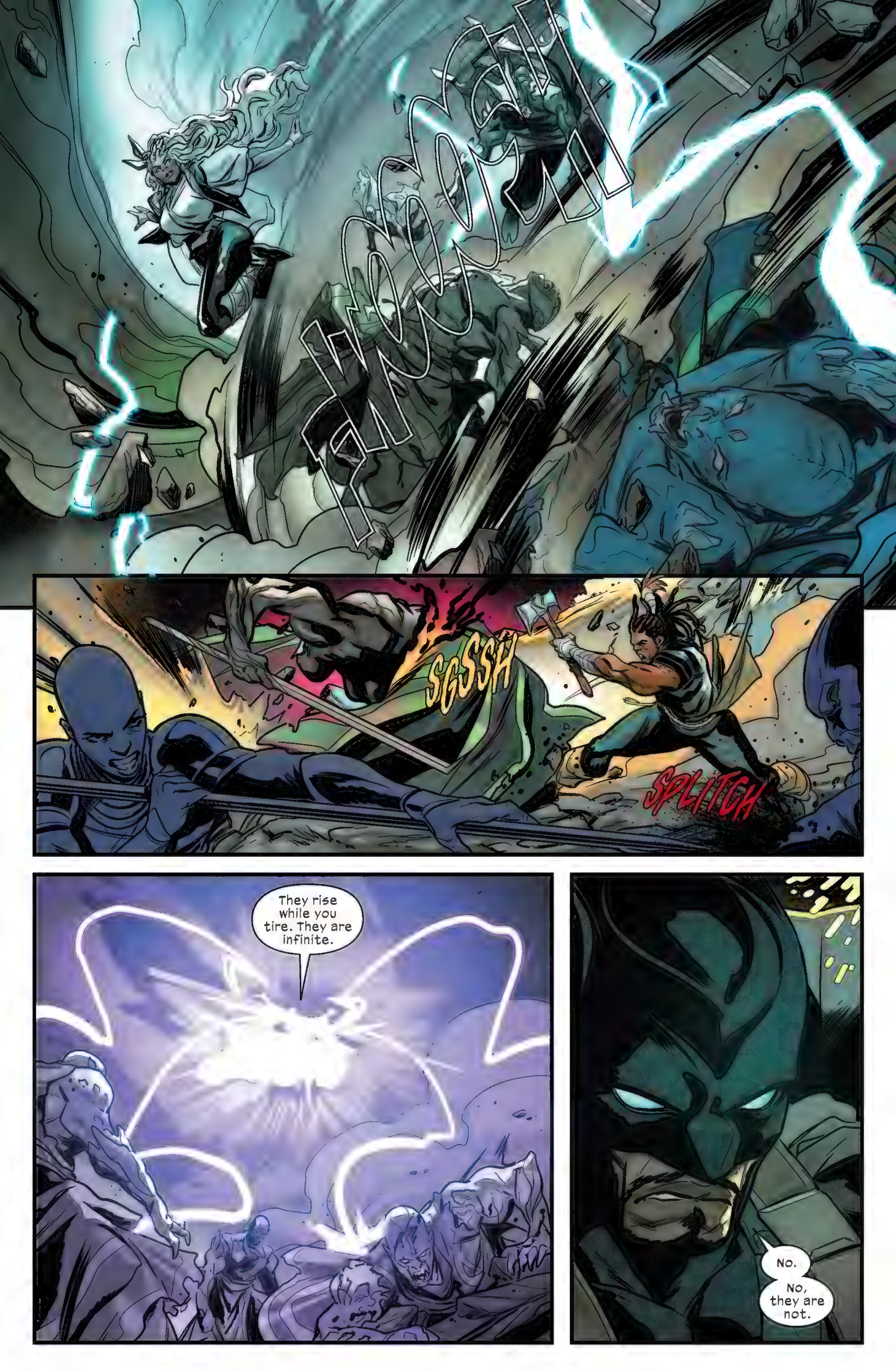

YOUR CLAIM TO WAKANDA IS BROKEN.
YOUR CLAIM TO VIBRANIUM IS BROKEN.
YOUR PLACE ON THIS WORLD IS NO MORE.
YOUR MARCH HAS ENDED. AS MY ANCESTORS KNEW YOUR KIND--
--I WILL DESTROY YOU.

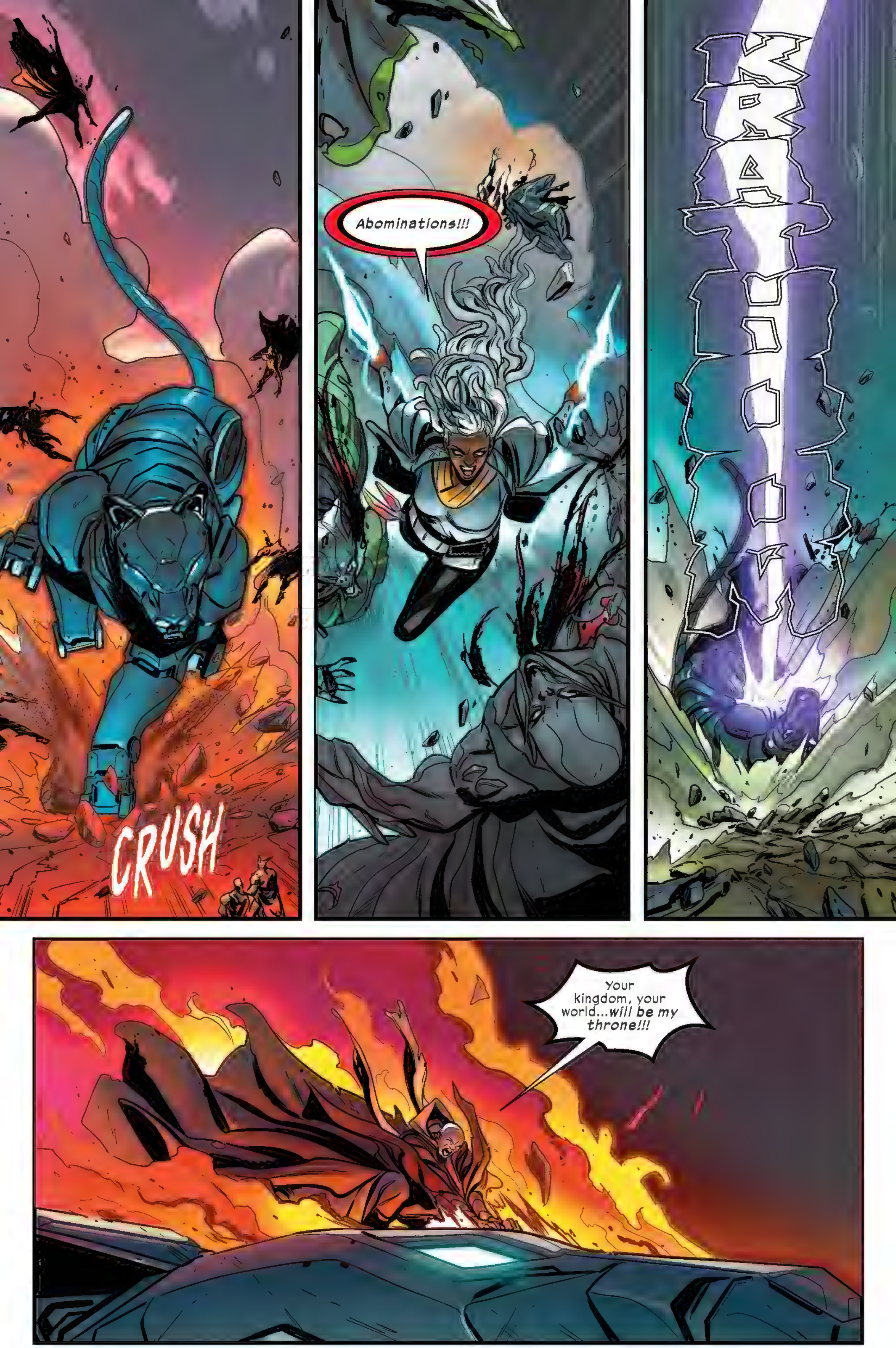

You will?
With a machine forged by the element of my world?
Mother Bast.
Reward my faith in you.
SHAKOOOOOM
I am *not* your vessel.
And you are *not* my child.
MOTHER BAST SHIELDS ME, ABOMINATION.
WHAT SHIELDS YOU?

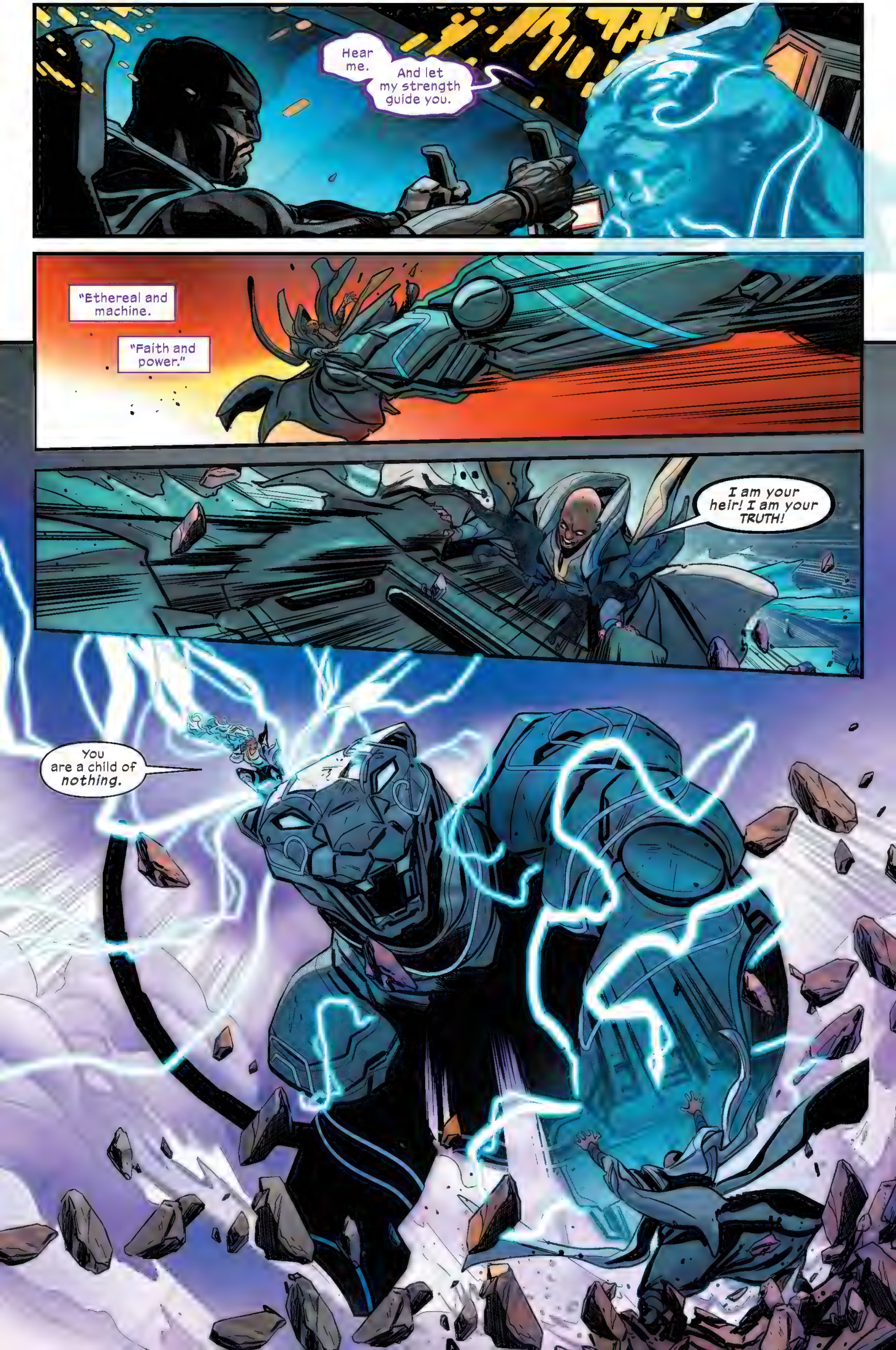

RRRAAAA--
KRAKK
ZZZZZKKKZRRR
Hraa!

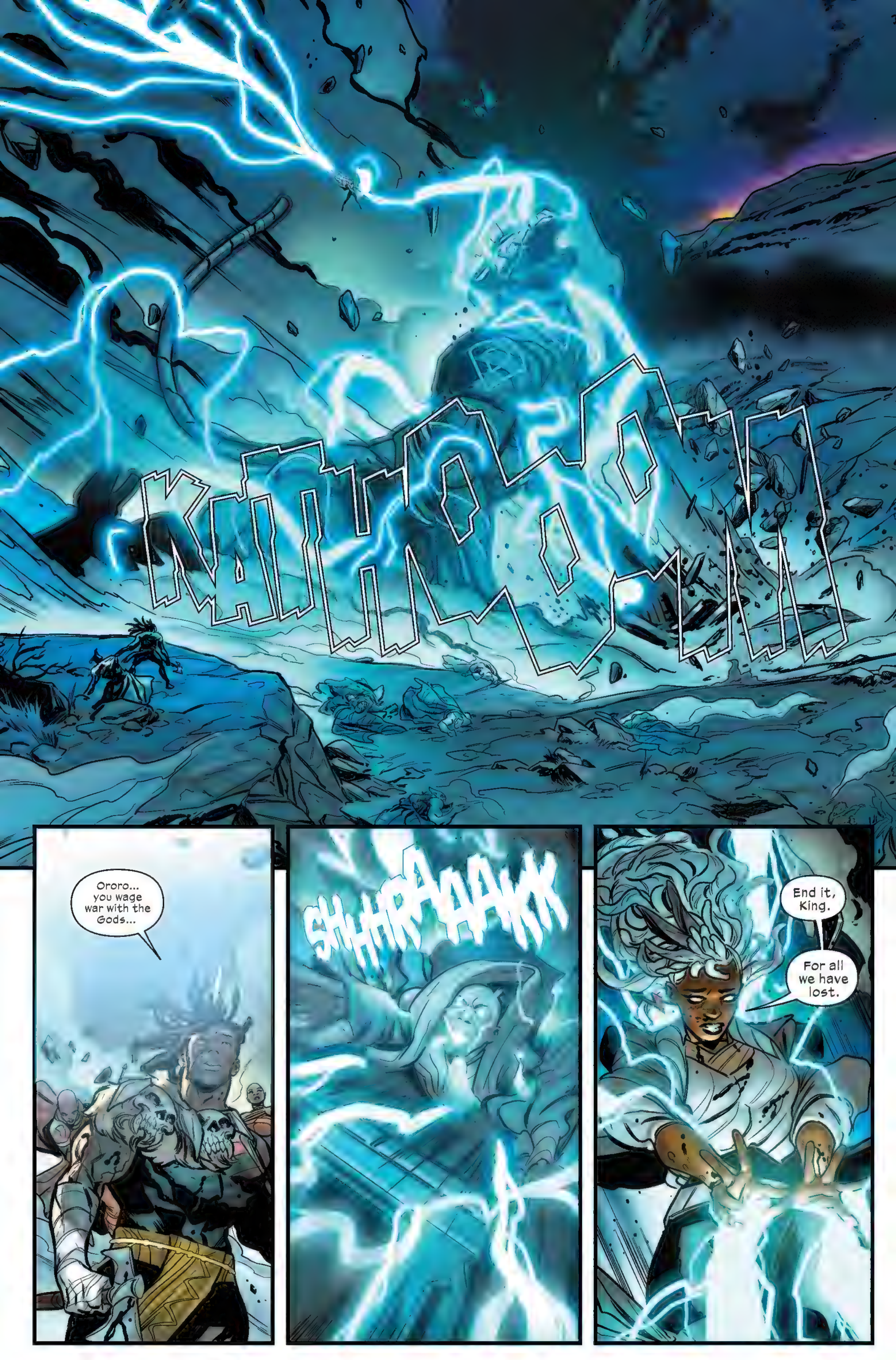

FWOOOOOOO
My flock. Open yourselves.
Receive your Gods.
HARRRRRR!
East.

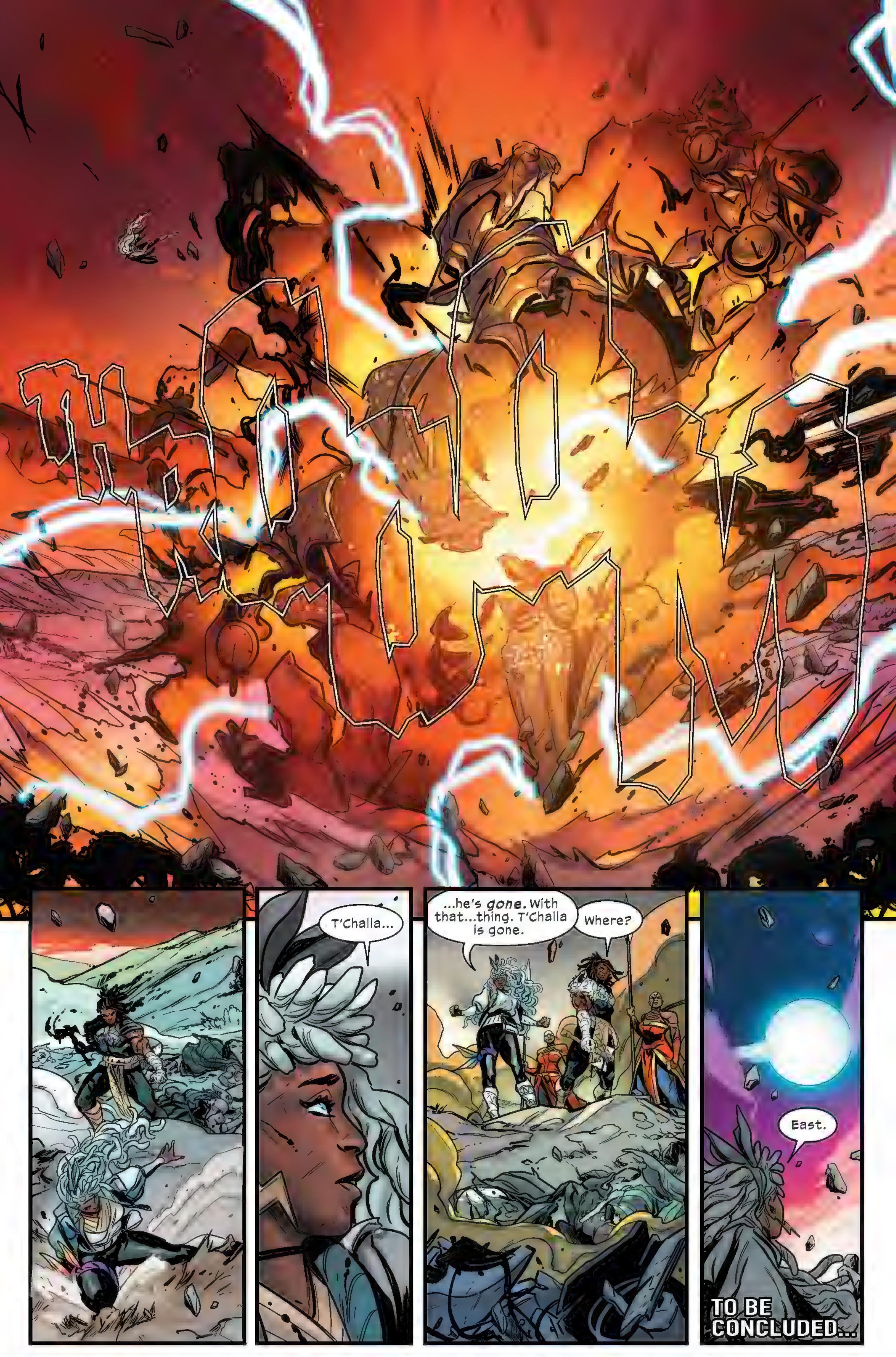

This is not my father's fight. Not my sister's. Not my queen's.
This is mine.
Dora Milaje!


FWOOOSH!
SGSSH
SPLITCH
They rise while you tire. They are infinite.
No.
No, they are not.


CRUSH
Abominations!!!
KRAKOOOM
Your kingdom, your world...*will be my throne!!!*


Hear me.
And let my strength guide you.
"Ethereal and machine.
"Faith and power."
I am your heir! I am your TRUTH!
You are a child of *nothing.*


KADHOOOM
Ororo... you wage war with the Gods...
SHHRAAAKK
End it, King.
For all we have lost.


THOOOOM
T'Challa...
...he's *gone.* With that...thing. T'Challa is gone.
Where?
East.
TO BE CONCLUDED...

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ARTIST: **CARLOS NIETO**

COLOR ARTIST: **DAVID CURIEL**
LETTERER: **VC's CORY PETIT**
COVER ARTISTS: **STEFANO CASELLI & DAVID CURIEL**
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EDITOR IN CHIEF: **C.B. CEBULSKI**

BLACK PANTHER CREATED BY **STAN LEE** & **JACK KIRBY**

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ULTIMATE
BLACK PANTHER
HILL | NEITO | CURIEL

ON SALE IN **JANUARY**

ON SALE THIS MONTH

MARVEL
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ULTIMATE
SPIDER-MAN

ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN #24

BY **JONATHAN HICKMAN,**
MARCO CHECCHETTO & **DAVID MESSINA**

MARVEL
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ULTIMATE
X-MEN

ULTIMATE X-MEN #22

BY **PEACH MOMOKO**

MARVEL
19
THE
ULTIMATES

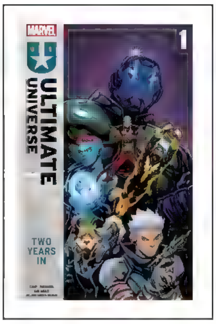
ULTIMATES #19

BY **DENIZ CAMP**
& **JUAN FRIGERI**

MARVEL
12
ULTIMATE
WOLVERINE

ULTIMATE WOLVERINE #12

BY **CHRIS CONDON** &
ALESSANDRO CAPPUCCIO


MARVEL
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ULTIMATE
UNIVERSE
TWO YEARS IN

ULTIMATE UNIVERSE: TWO YEARS IN #1

BY **DENIZ CAMP,**
ALEX PAKNADEL & **MORE**

MARVEL
1
ULTIMATE
ENDGAME

ULTIMATE ENDGAME #1

BY **DENIZ CAMP,**
TERRY DODSON & **JONAS SCHARF**

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU! EMAIL US AT **ULTIMATEOFFICE@MARVEL.COM** AND MARK YOUR LETTERS **"OKAY TO PRINT"**!

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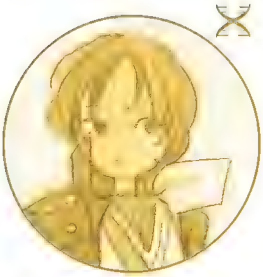
A diabolical genius known as **THE MAKER** used time travel to create his ideal Earth by systematically preventing anyone from ever becoming a super hero—except for those on his secret **MAKER'S COUNCIL**, whom he stationed to rule over different regions of the world.

HI NO KUNI ("LAND OF THE SUN") became one of two hotbeds for mutant activity, but civilians were unaware until social media exploded with the story of **CHILDREN OF THE ATOM**, a cult for mutant youth led by a zealot known as **MAESTER**.

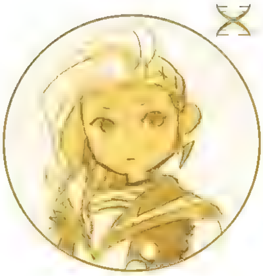
SUNFIRE, the Sun Emperor and member of the Maker's Council (and boss of **VIPER**), declared the **MUTANT REGISTRATION ACT**. **MEI IGARASHI (MAYSTORM)**, **HISAKO ICHIKI (ARMOR)**, **KANON SAINOUCHI (PSYLOCKE)** and their friends were protesting the act when Sunfire sent the Children of the Atom, who he had powered up with the biological weapon called **MY-X**, to end the protest. But MY-X is derived from the mutant power of **SHINOBU KAGEYAMA (SHADOW KING)**, so he was able to shut down the Children of the Atom and "save" Hisako and her friends...

ULTIMATE X-MEN

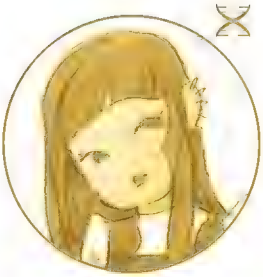
CAST:



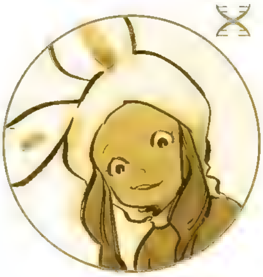
HISAKO ICHIKI
ARMOR



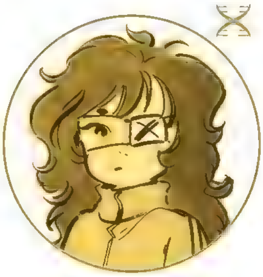
MEI IGARASHI
MAYSTORM



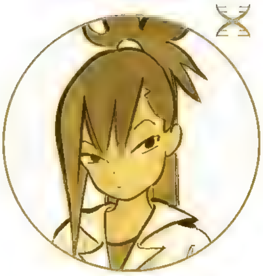
NICO MINORU
FLEDGLING PSYCHIC



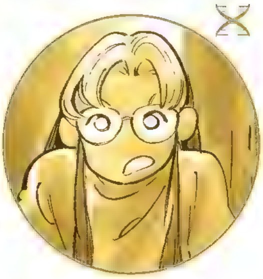
MORI
NICO'S FRIEND



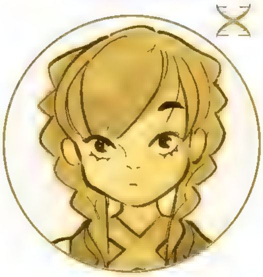
NATSU TSUKISHIMA
NICO'S FRIEND



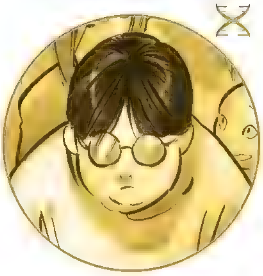
KANON SAINOUCHI
PSYLOCKE



FUTABA
MUTANT
RESEARCHER

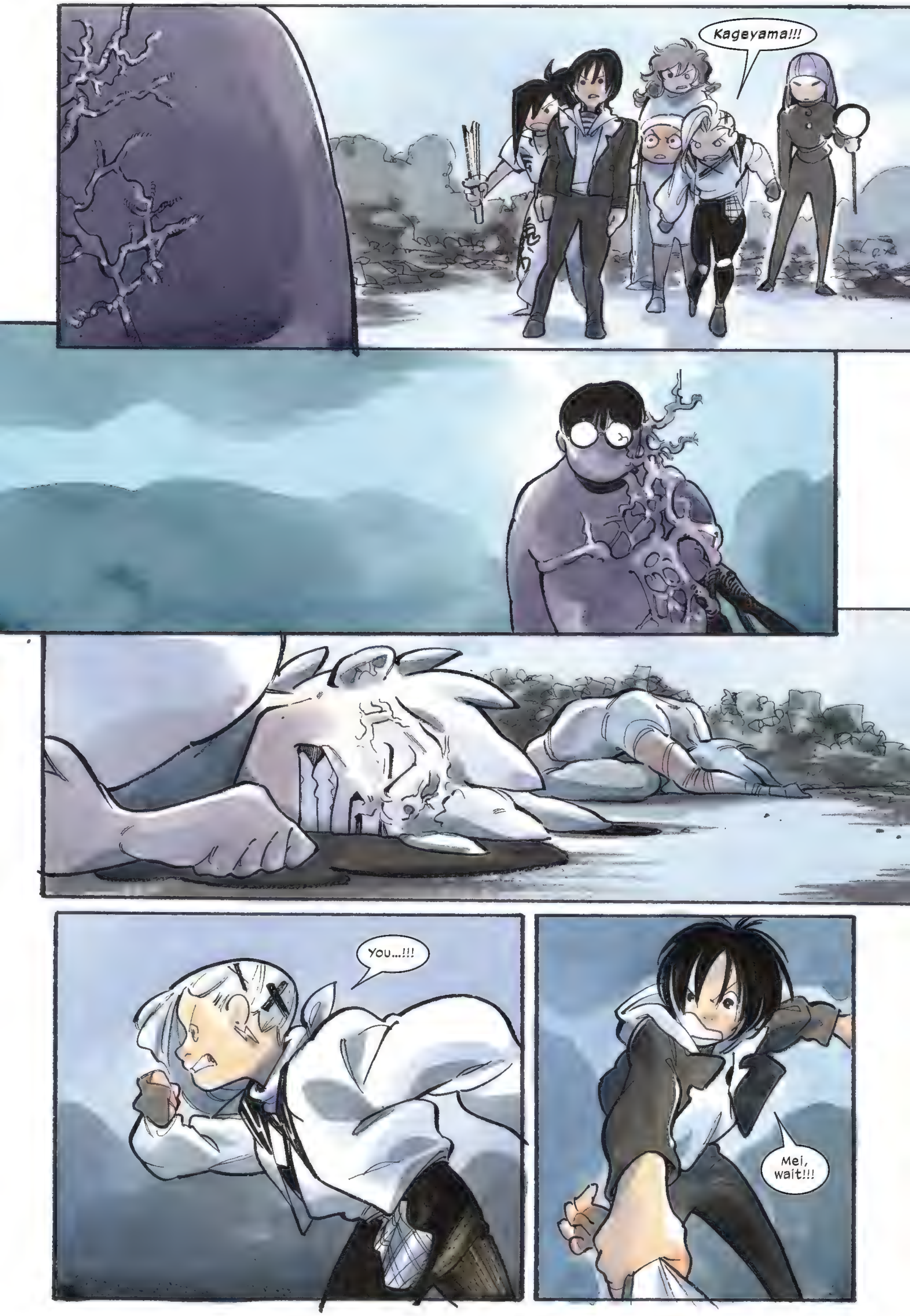


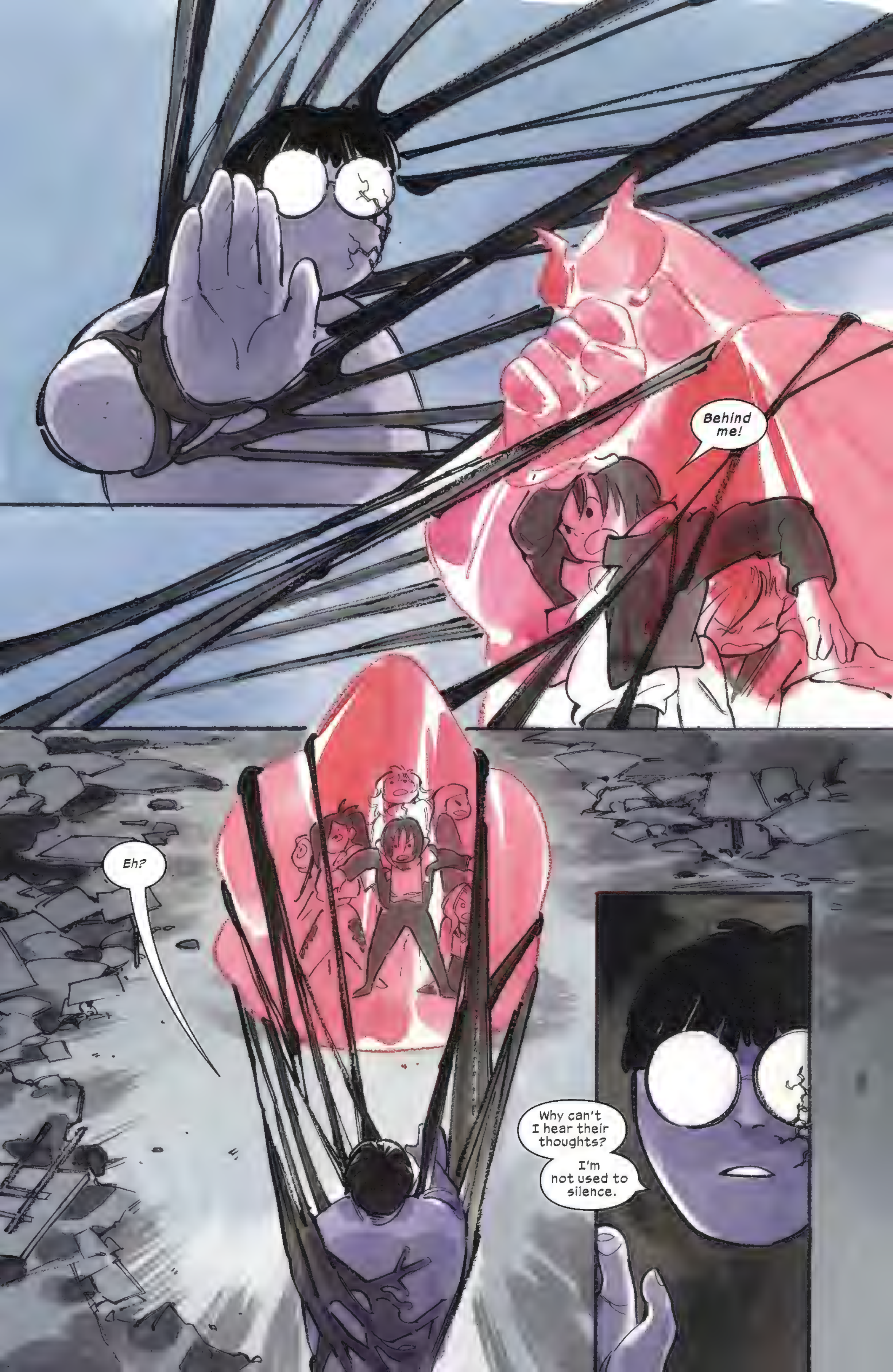
NORIKO ASHIDA
SURGE

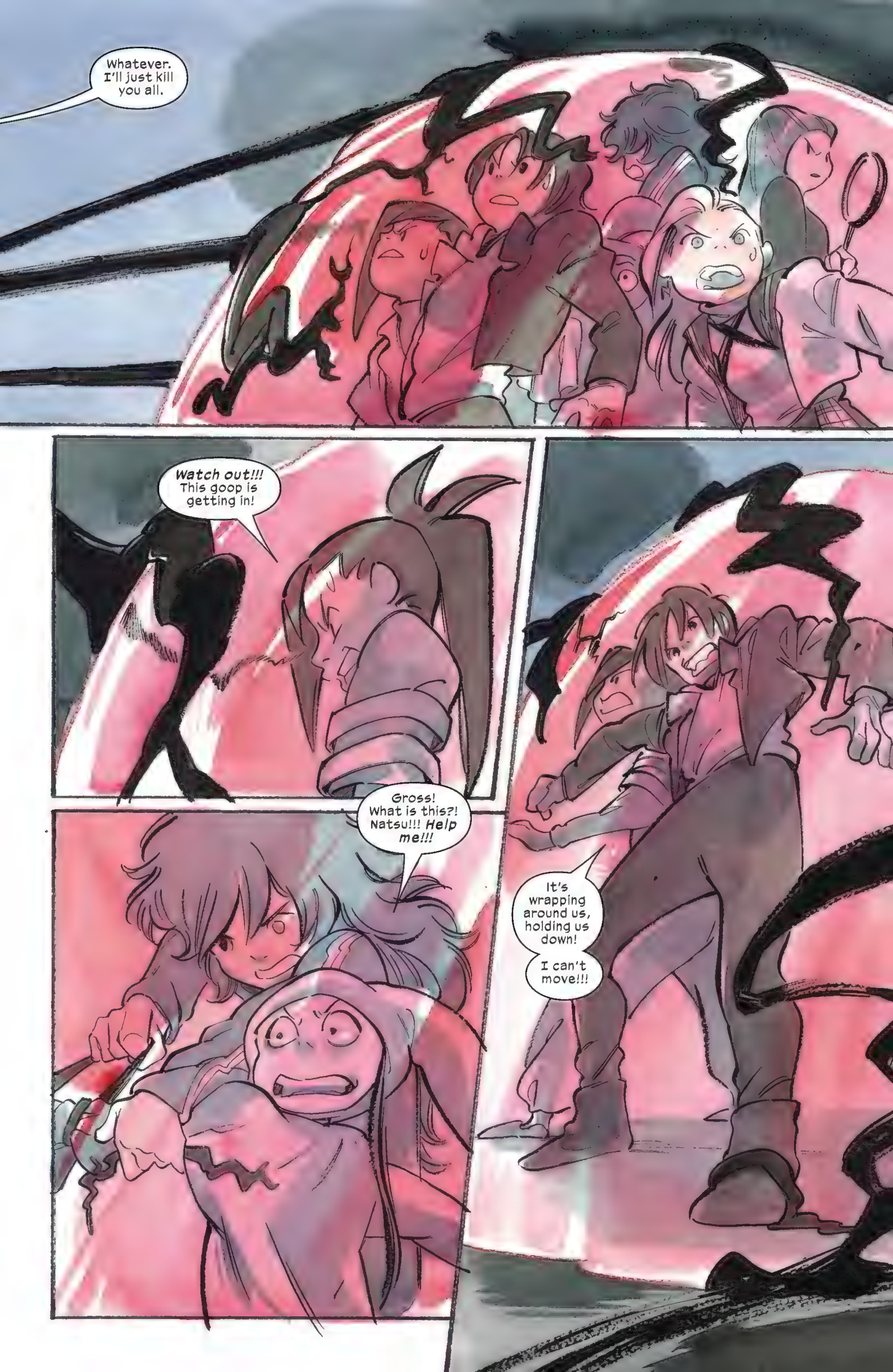


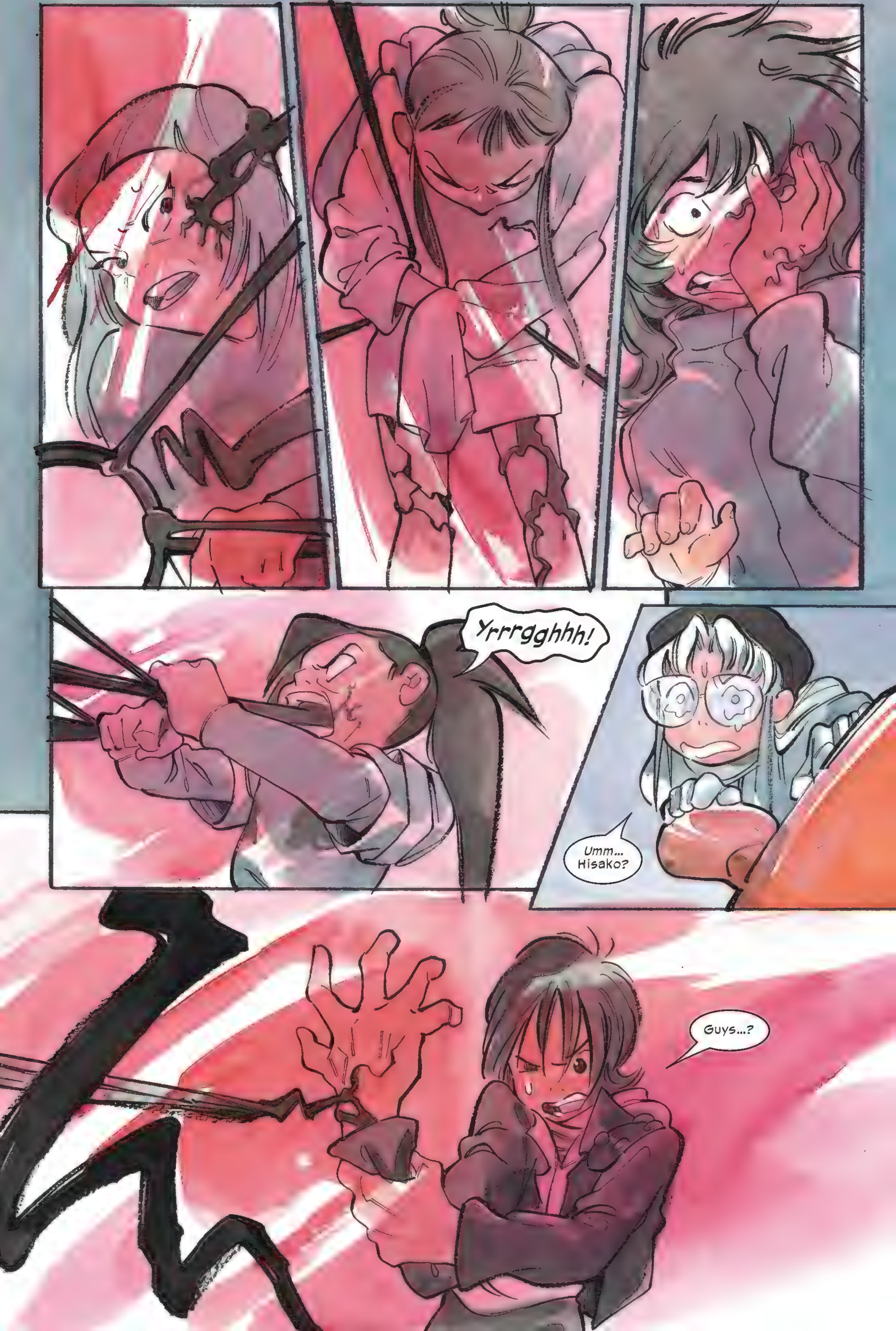
SHINOBU KAGEYAMA
SHADOW KING

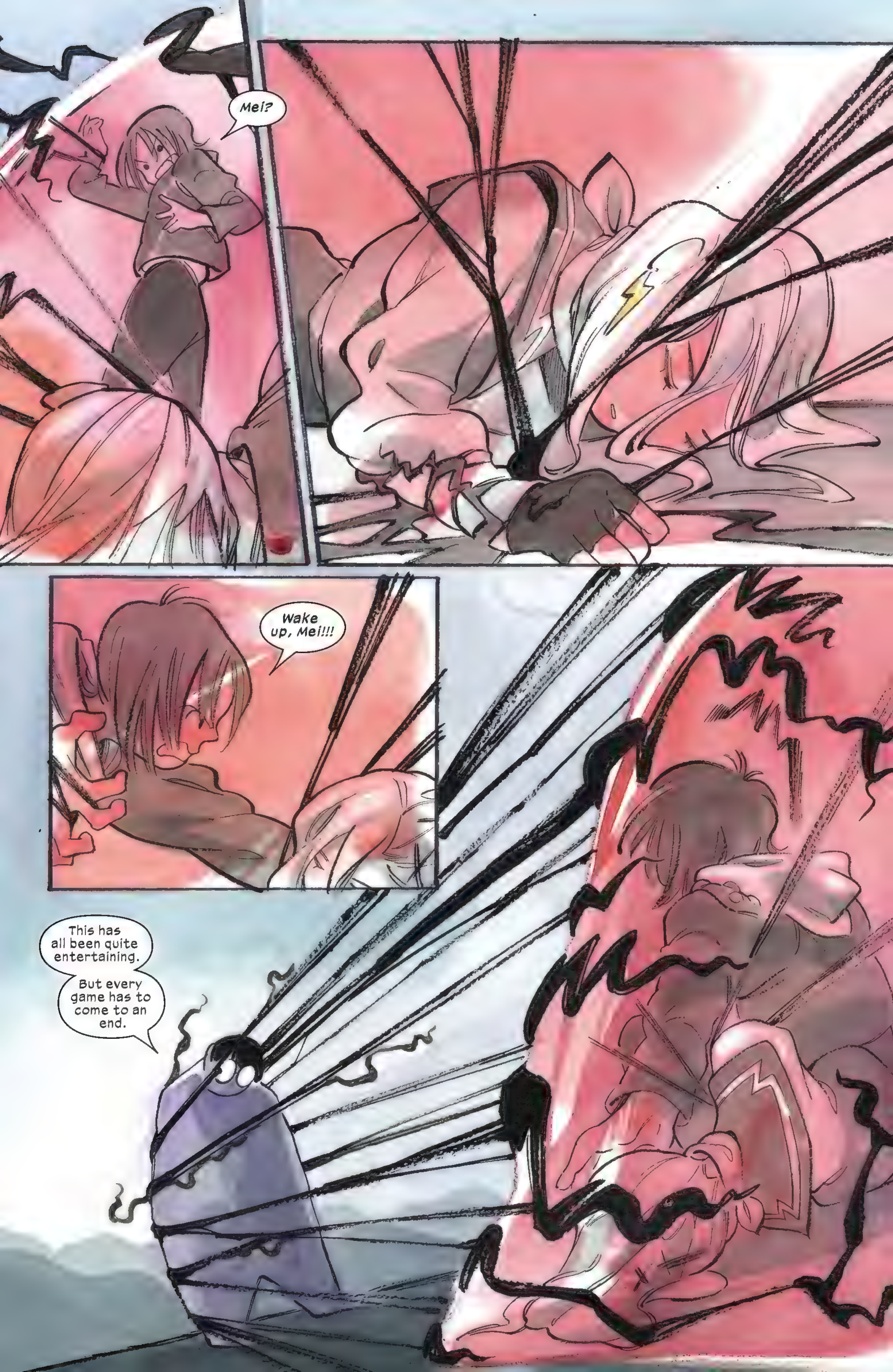
DECEMBER 2025

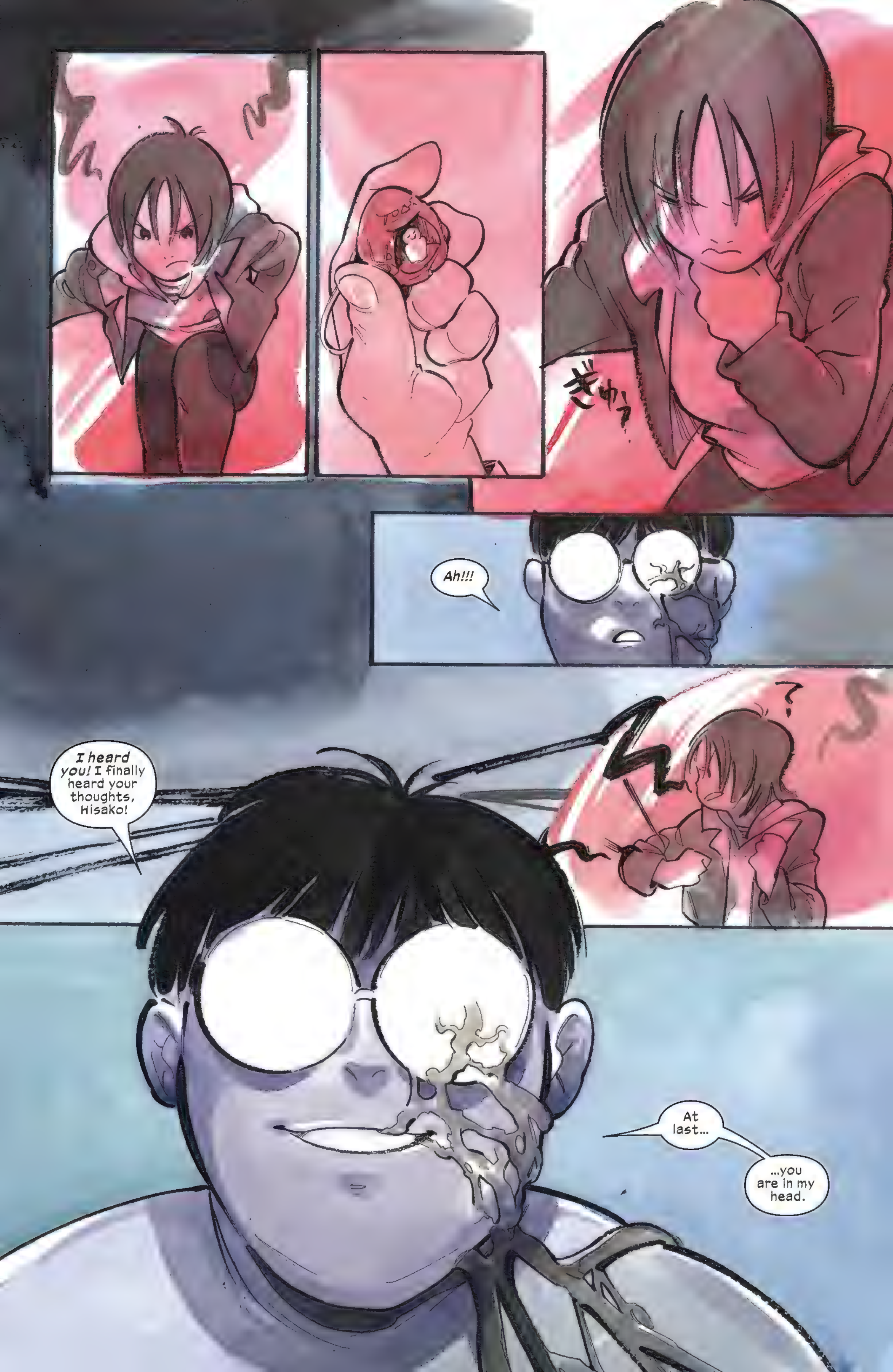

Kageyama!!!
You...!!!
Mei, wait!!!

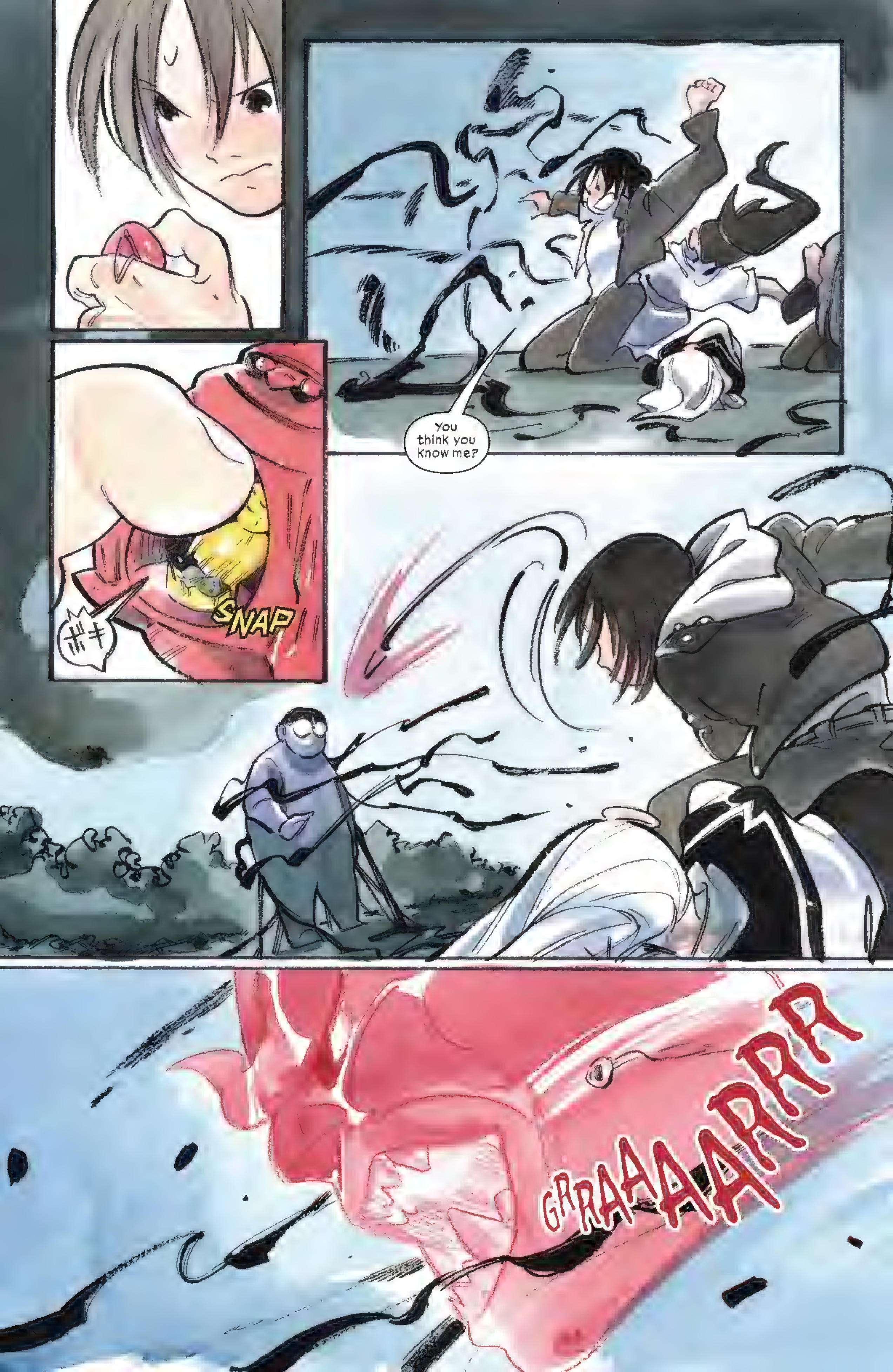

Behind me!
Eh?
Why can't I hear their thoughts?
I'm not used to silence.

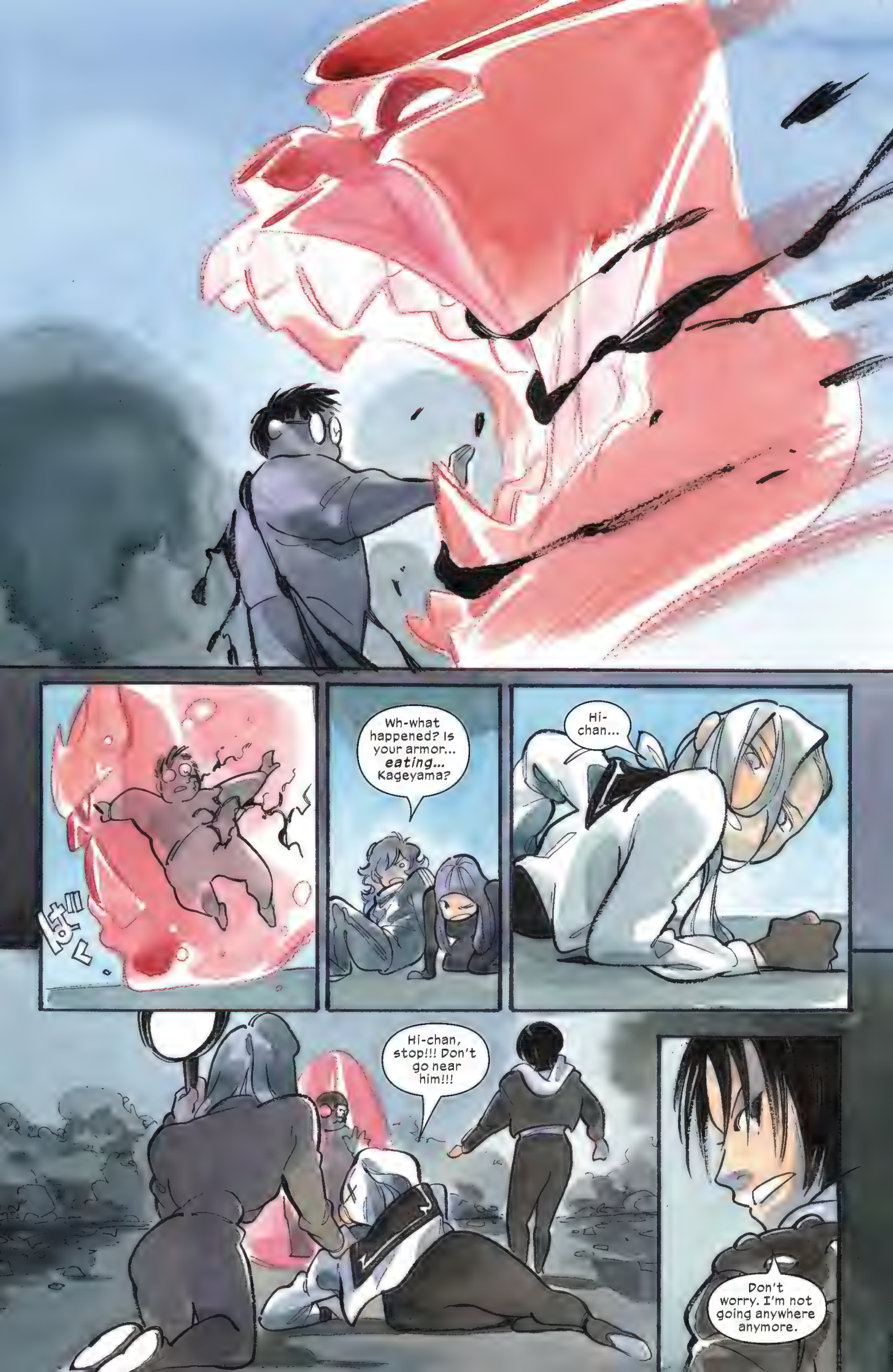

Whatever. I'll just kill you all.
Watch out!!! This goop is getting in!
Gross! What is this?! Natsu!!! *Help me!!!*
It's wrapping around us, holding us down!
I can't move!!!

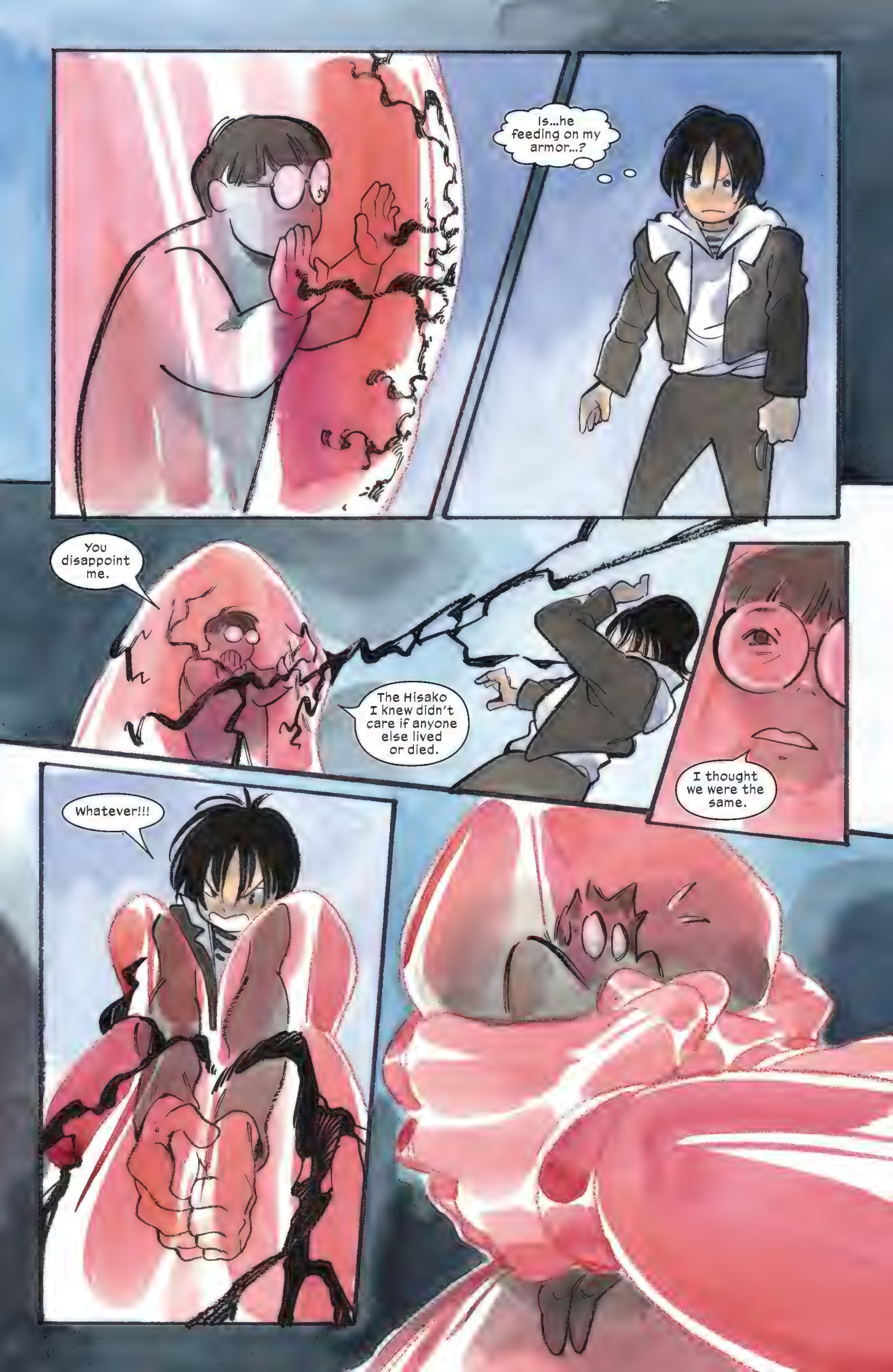

Yrrrgghhh!
Umm... Hisako?
Guys...?

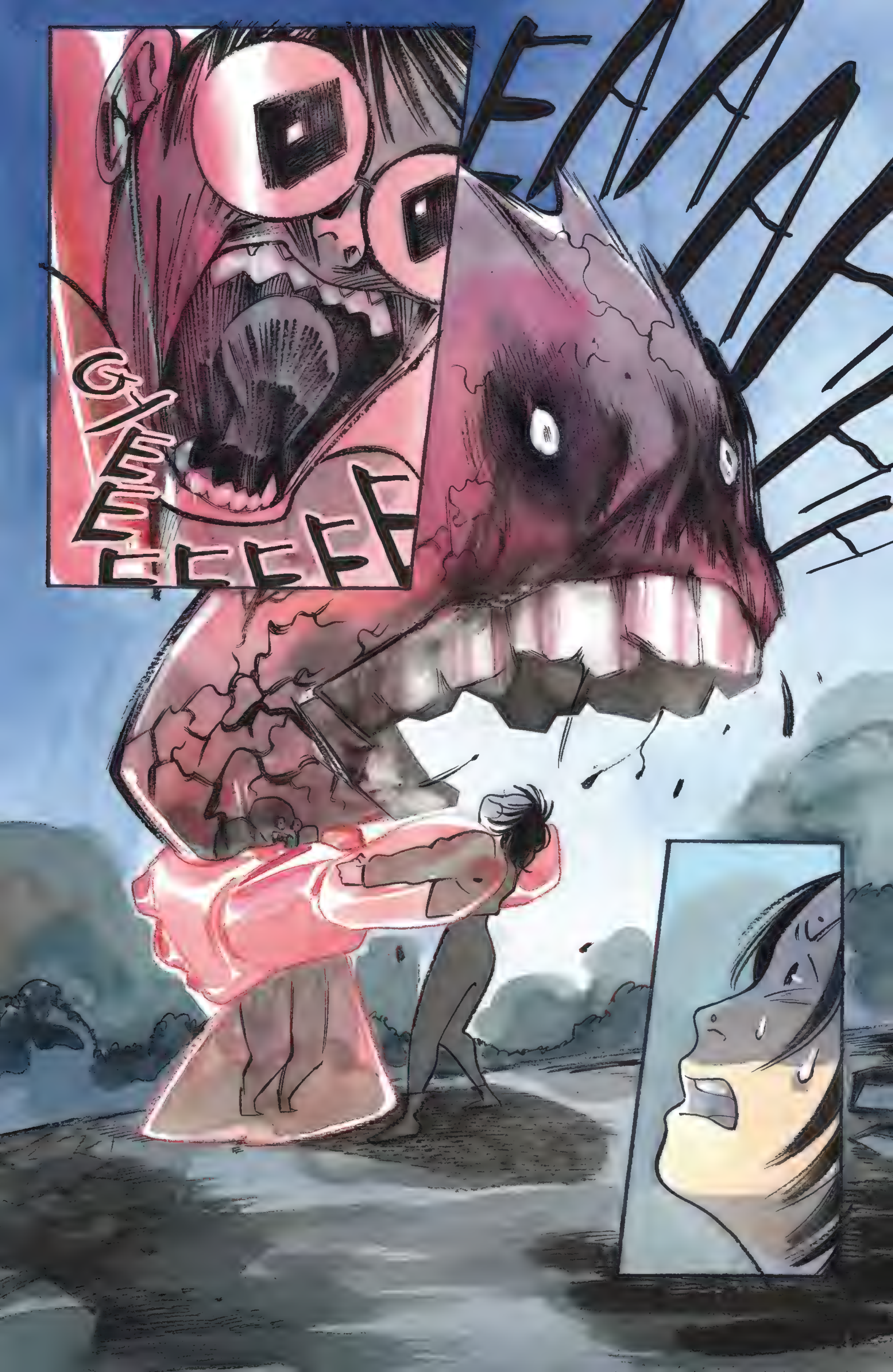

Mei?
Wake up, Mei!!!
This has all been quite entertaining.
But every game has to come to an end.

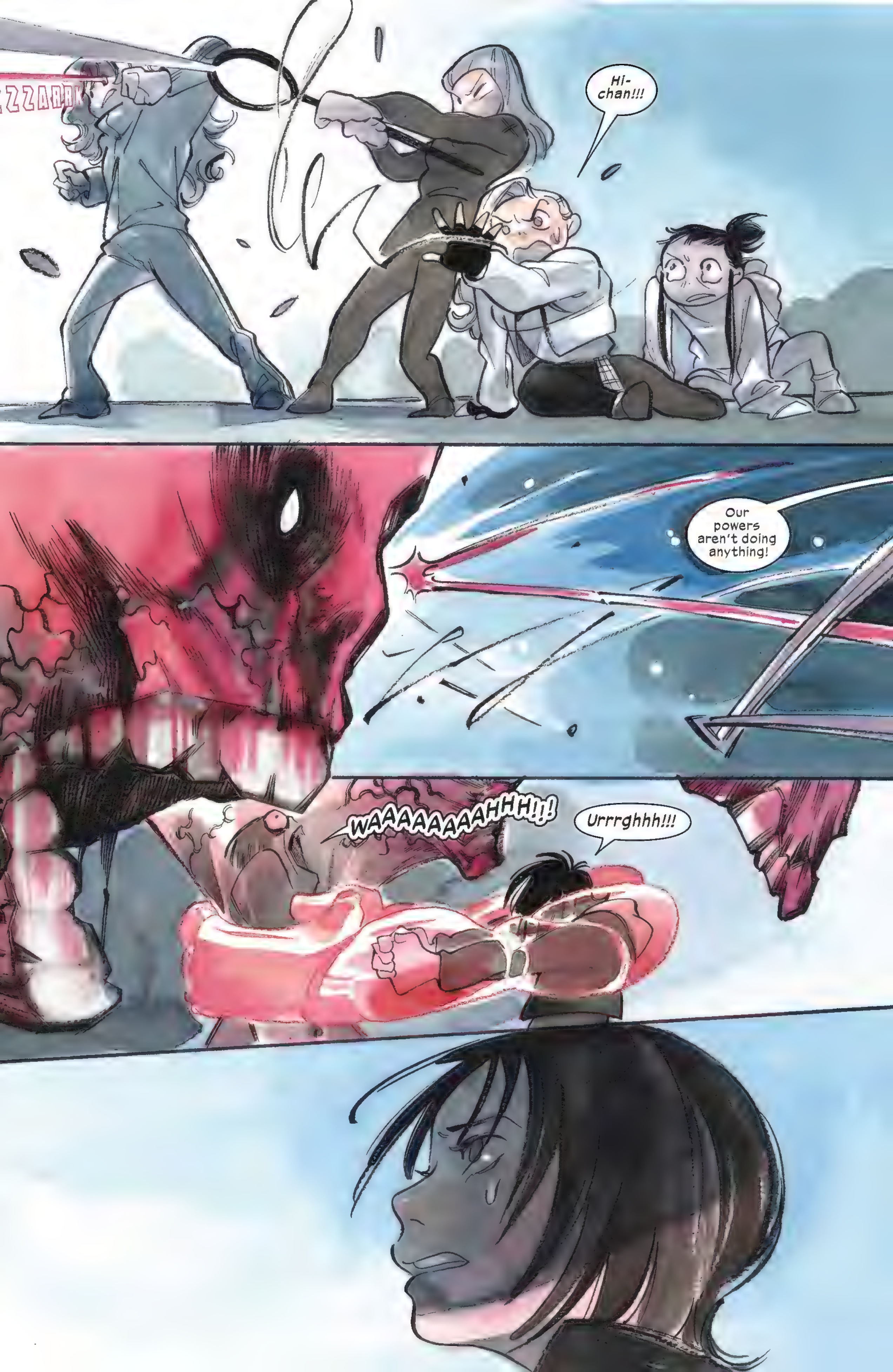

ぎゅっ
Ah!!!
I heard you! I finally heard your thoughts, Hisako!
At last...
...you are in my head.

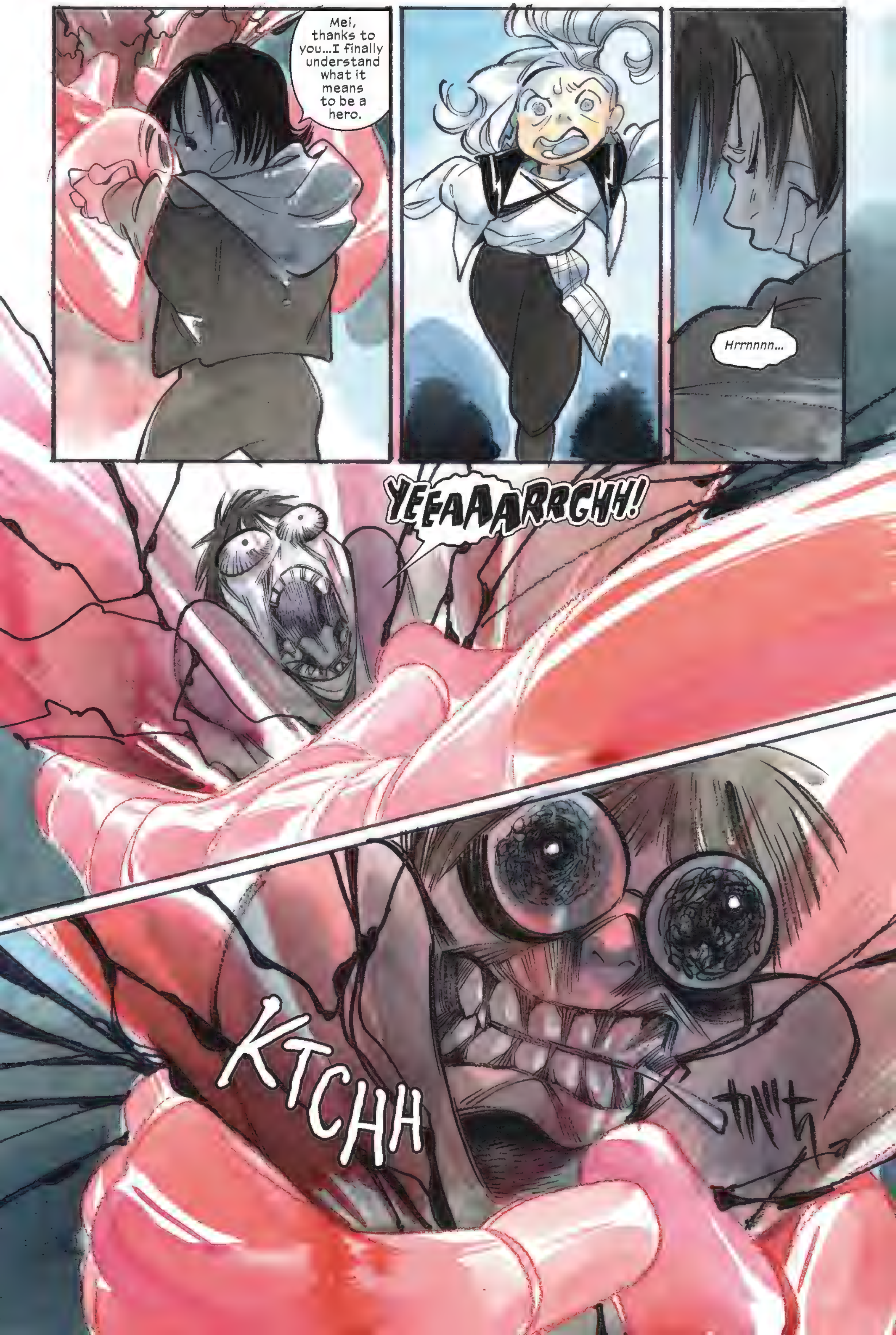

You think you know me?
SNAP
ボキ
GRRAAAARRR

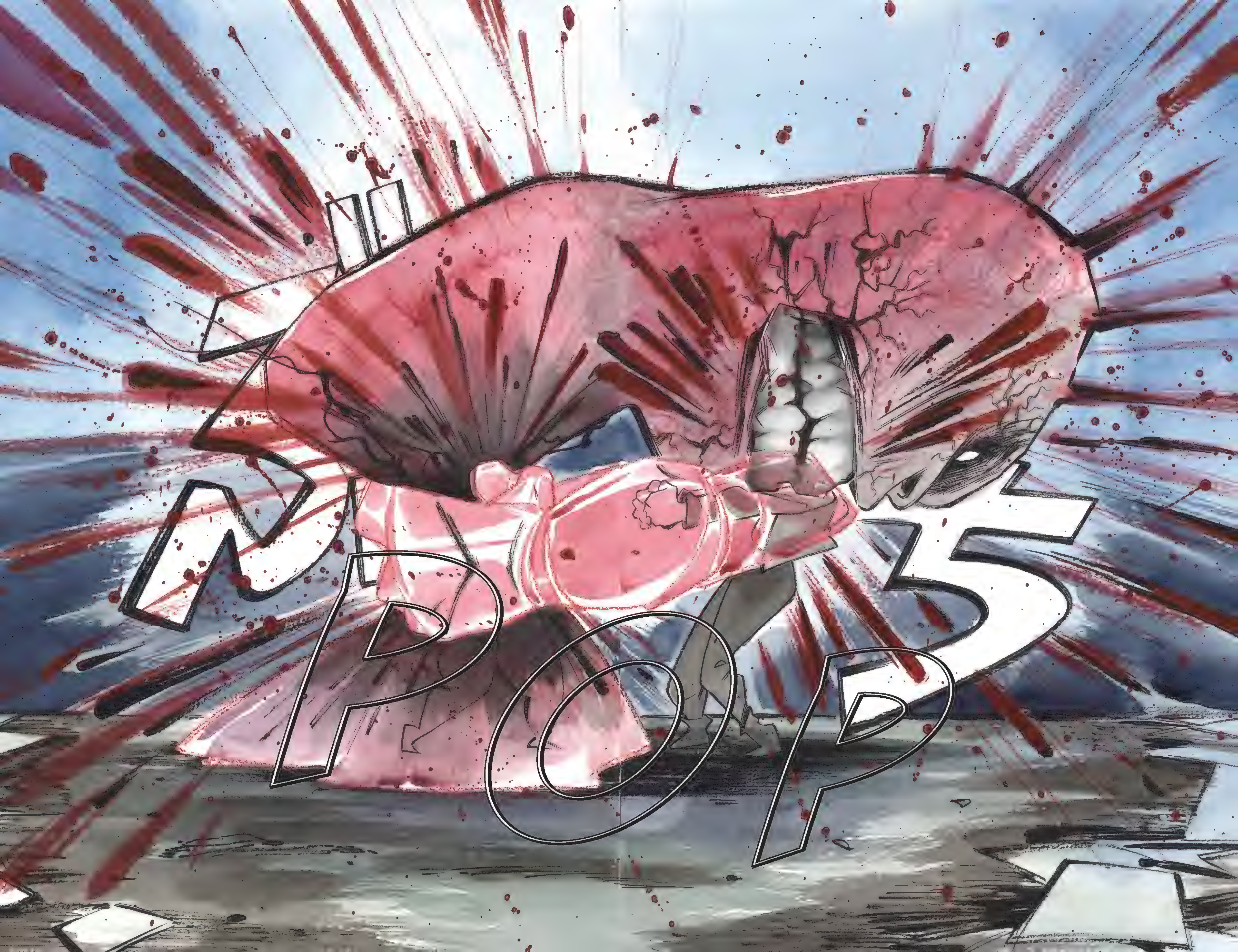

Wh-what happened? Is your armor... *eating...* Kageyama?
Hi-chan...
Hi-chan, stop!!! Don't go near him!!!
Don't worry. I'm not going anywhere anymore.

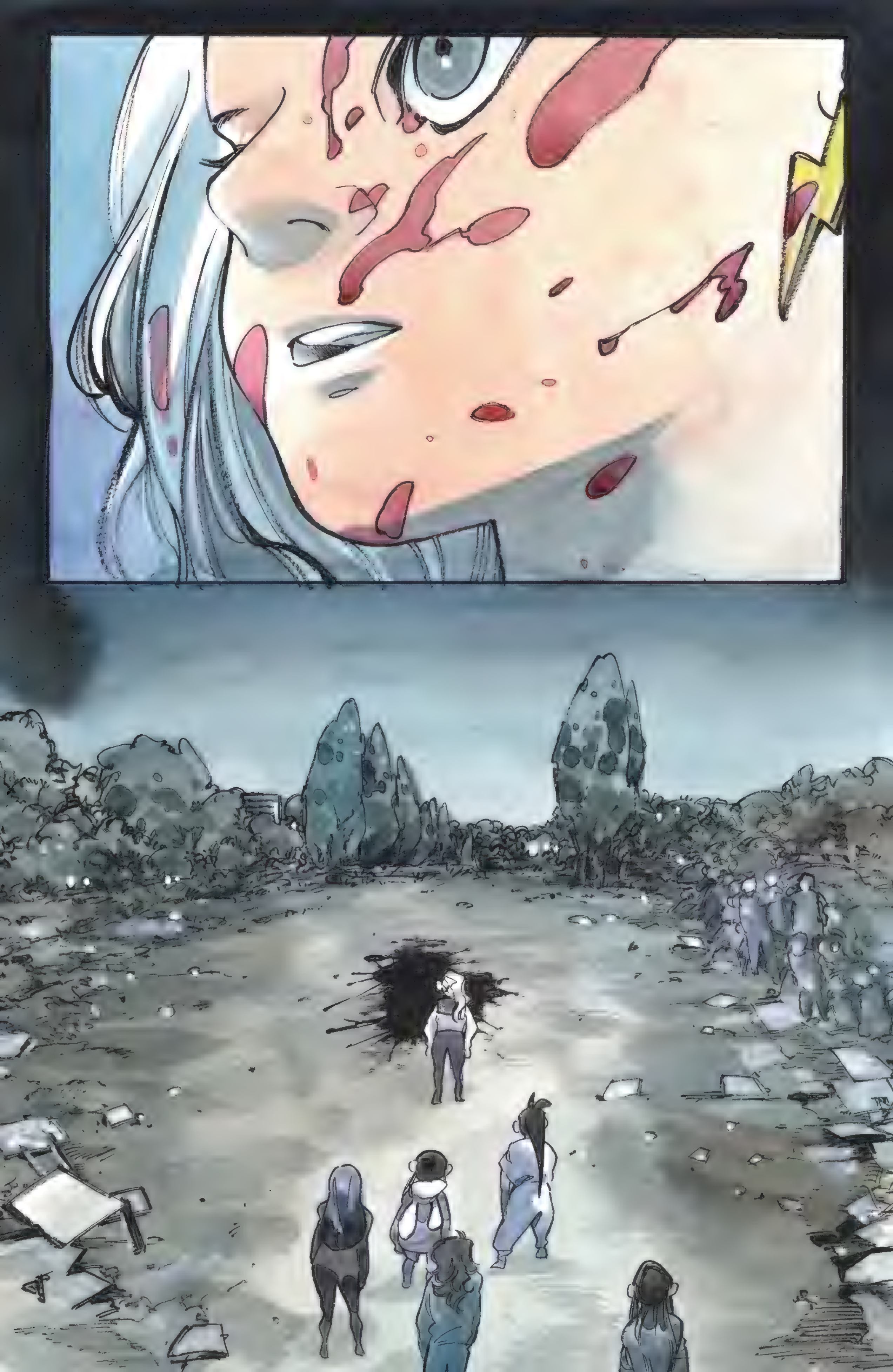

Is...he feeding on my armor...?
You disappoint me.
The Hisako I knew didn't care if anyone else lived or died.
I thought we were the same.
Whatever!!!

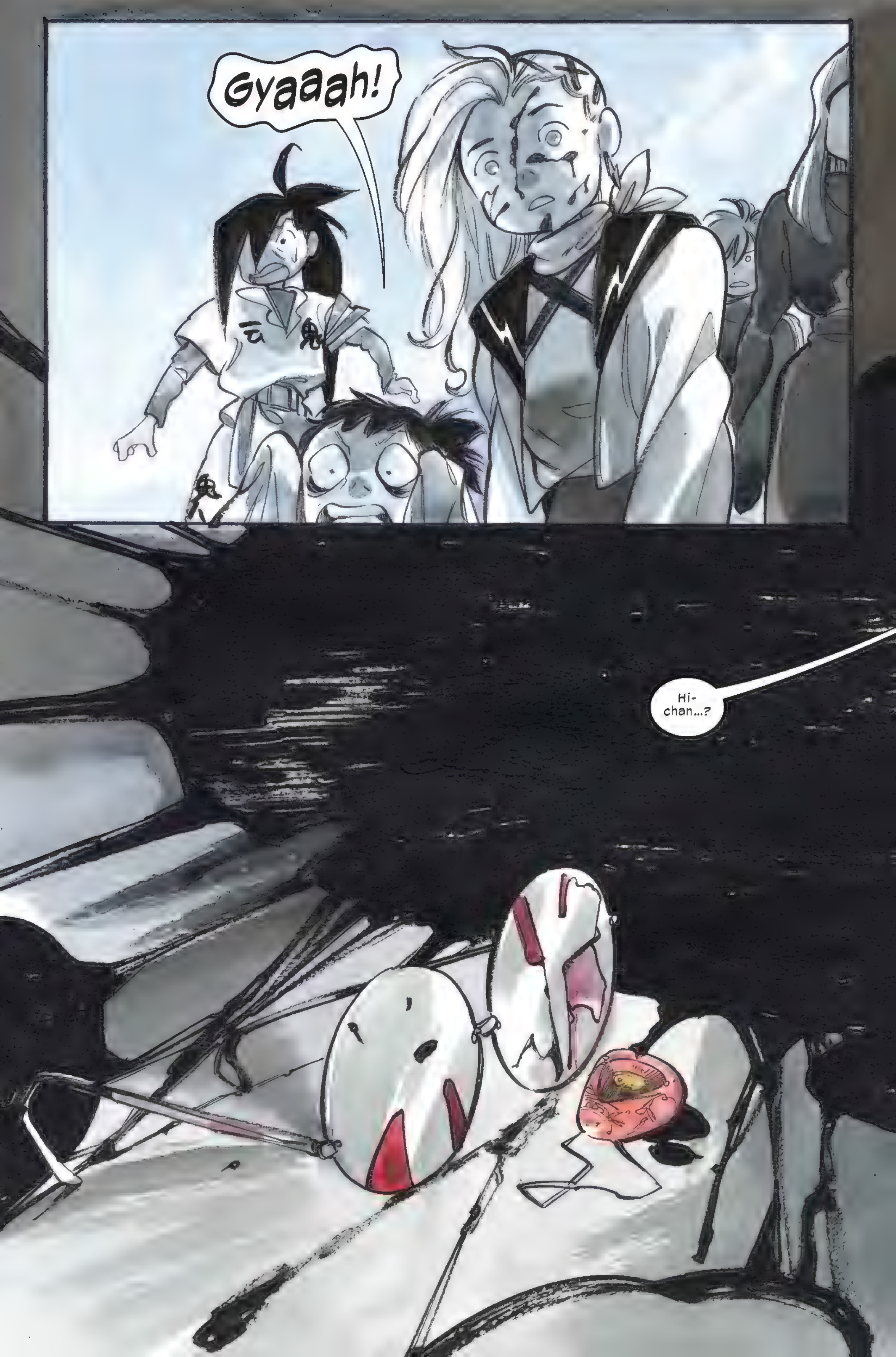

EAAAAAA
GYEEEEEEEE

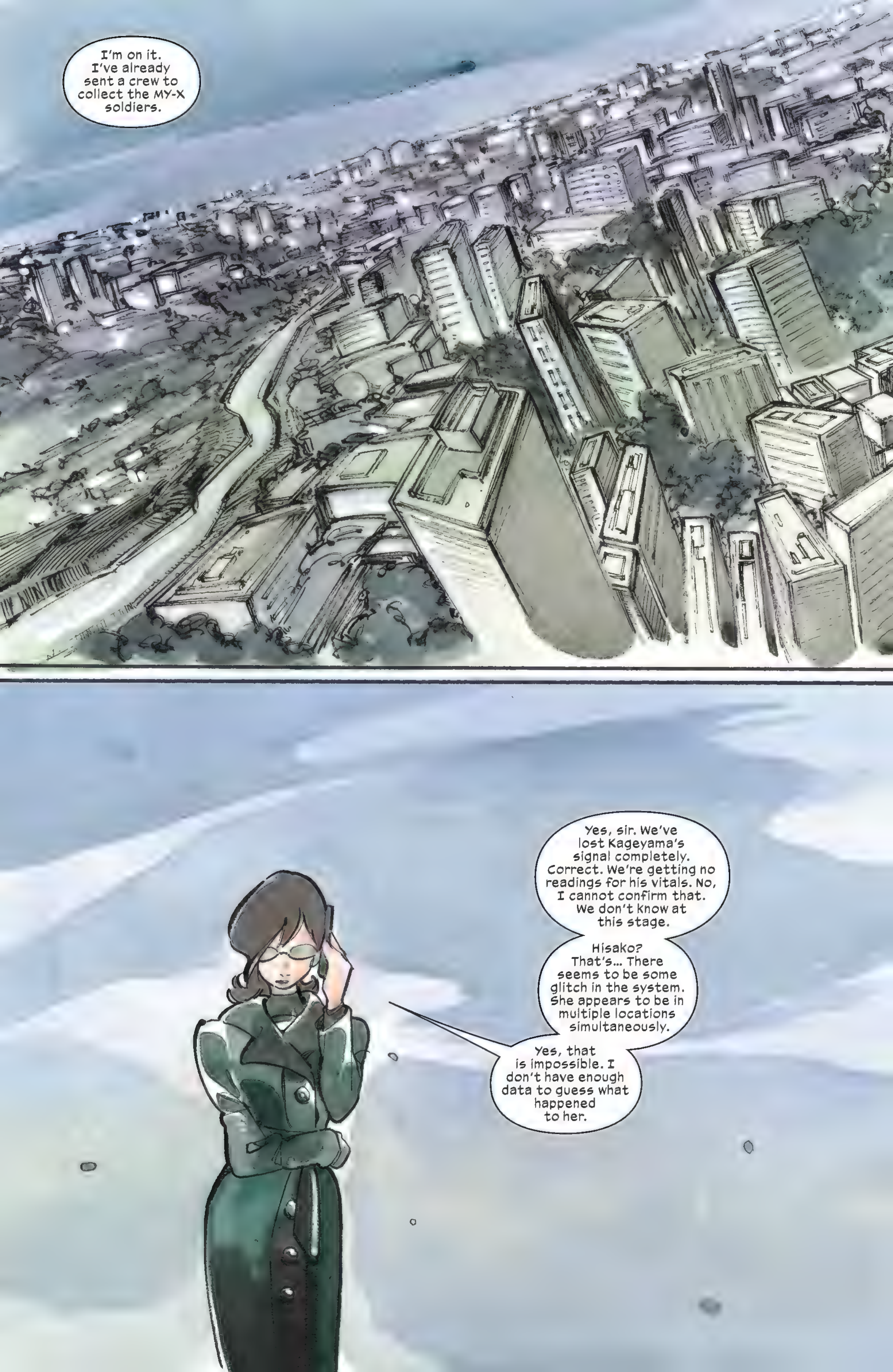

ZZZARRK
Hi-chan!!!
Our powers aren't doing anything!
WAAAAAAAAHHH!!!
Urrrghhh!!!

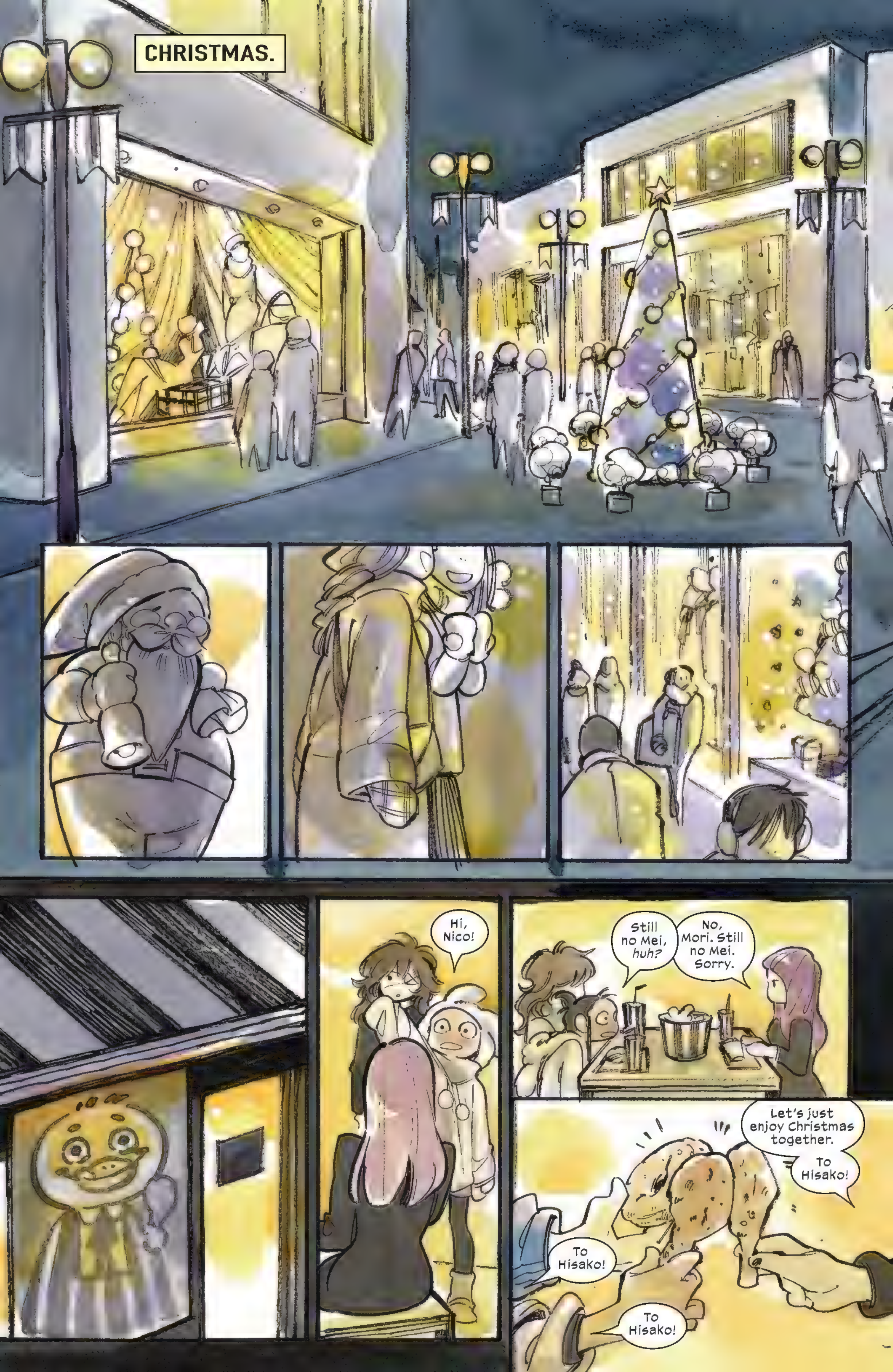

Mei, thanks to you...I finally understand what it means to be a hero.
Hrrnnnn...
YEEAAARRGHH!
KTCHH
ガチ

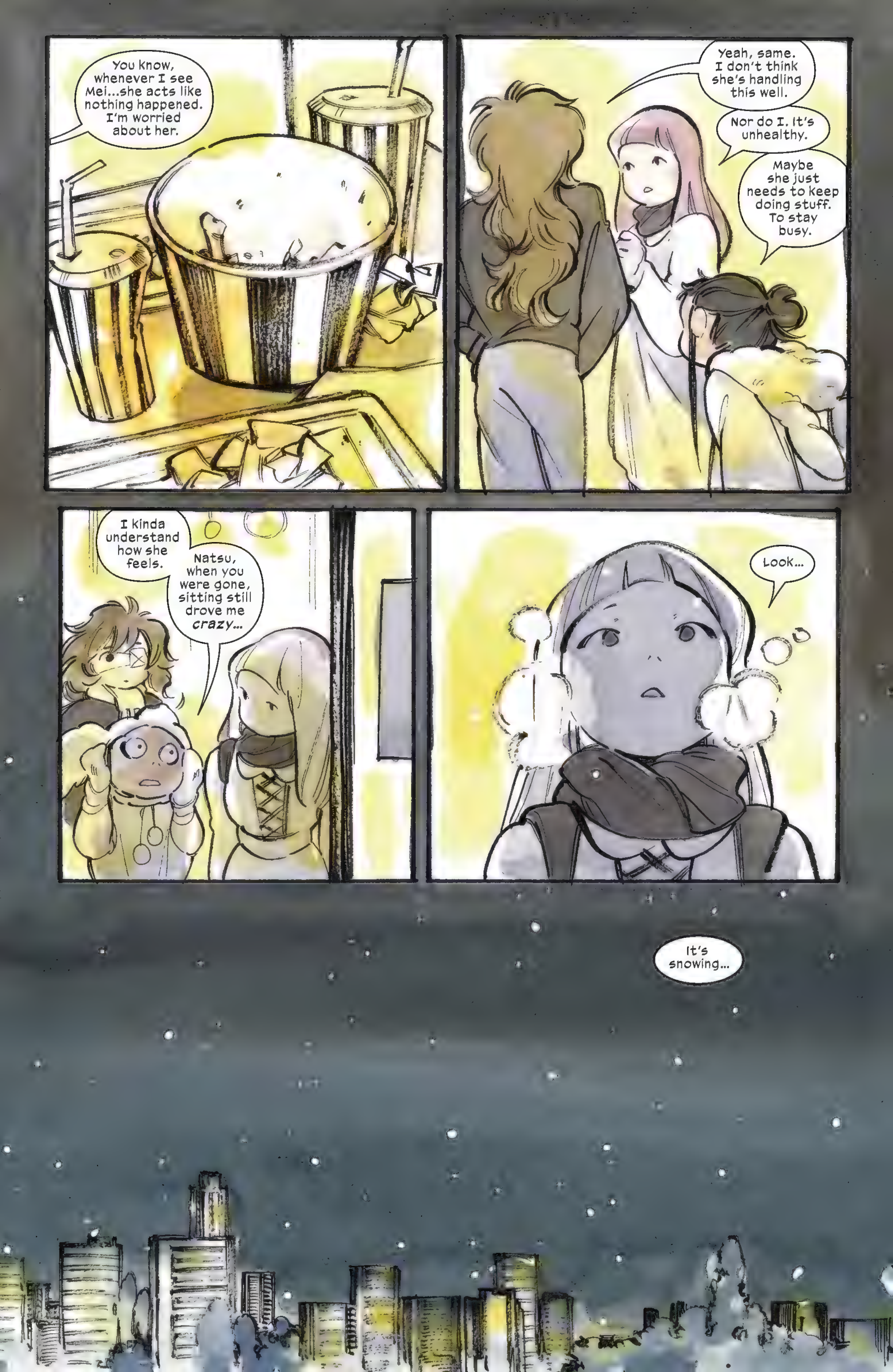

POP

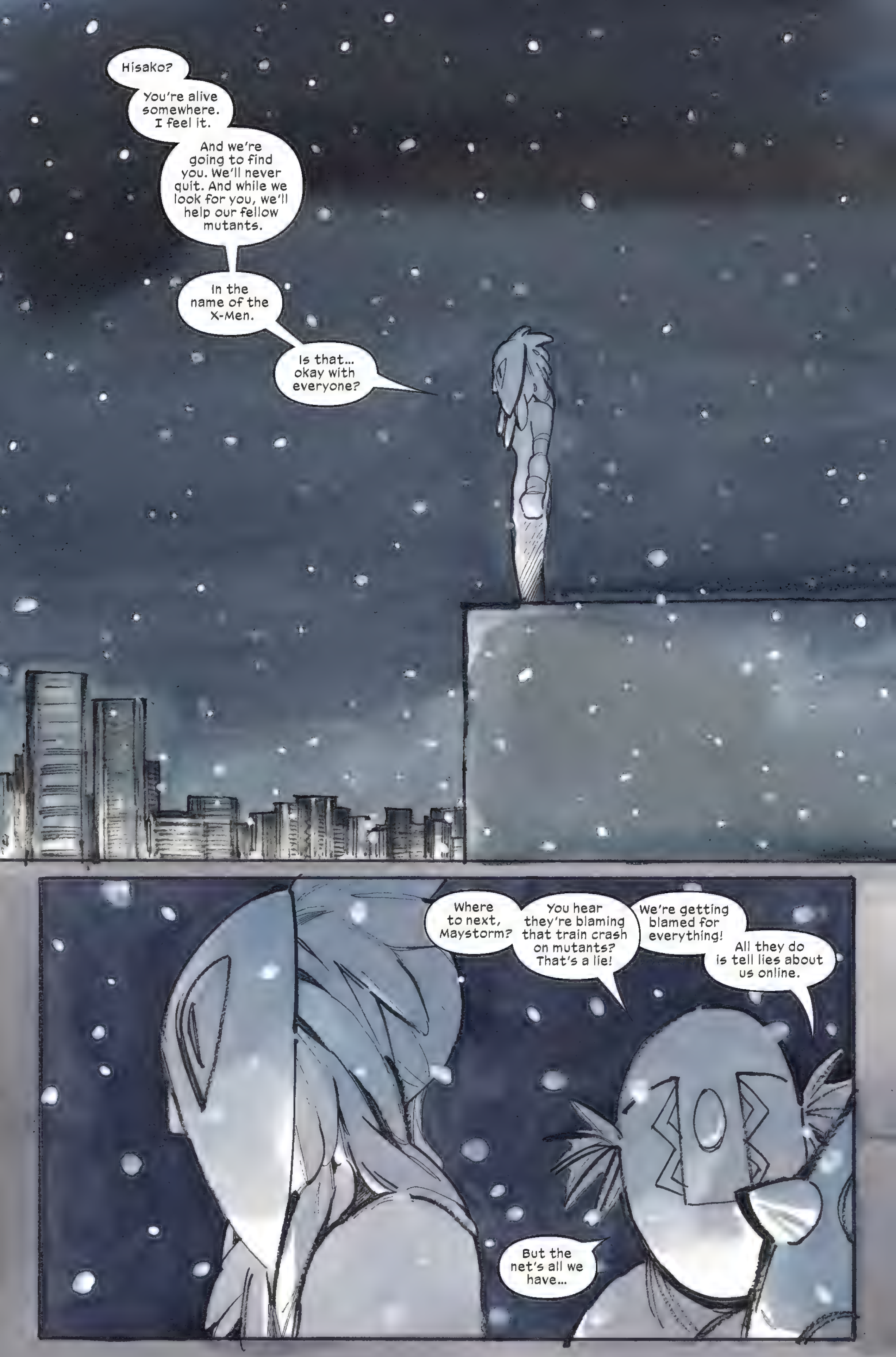


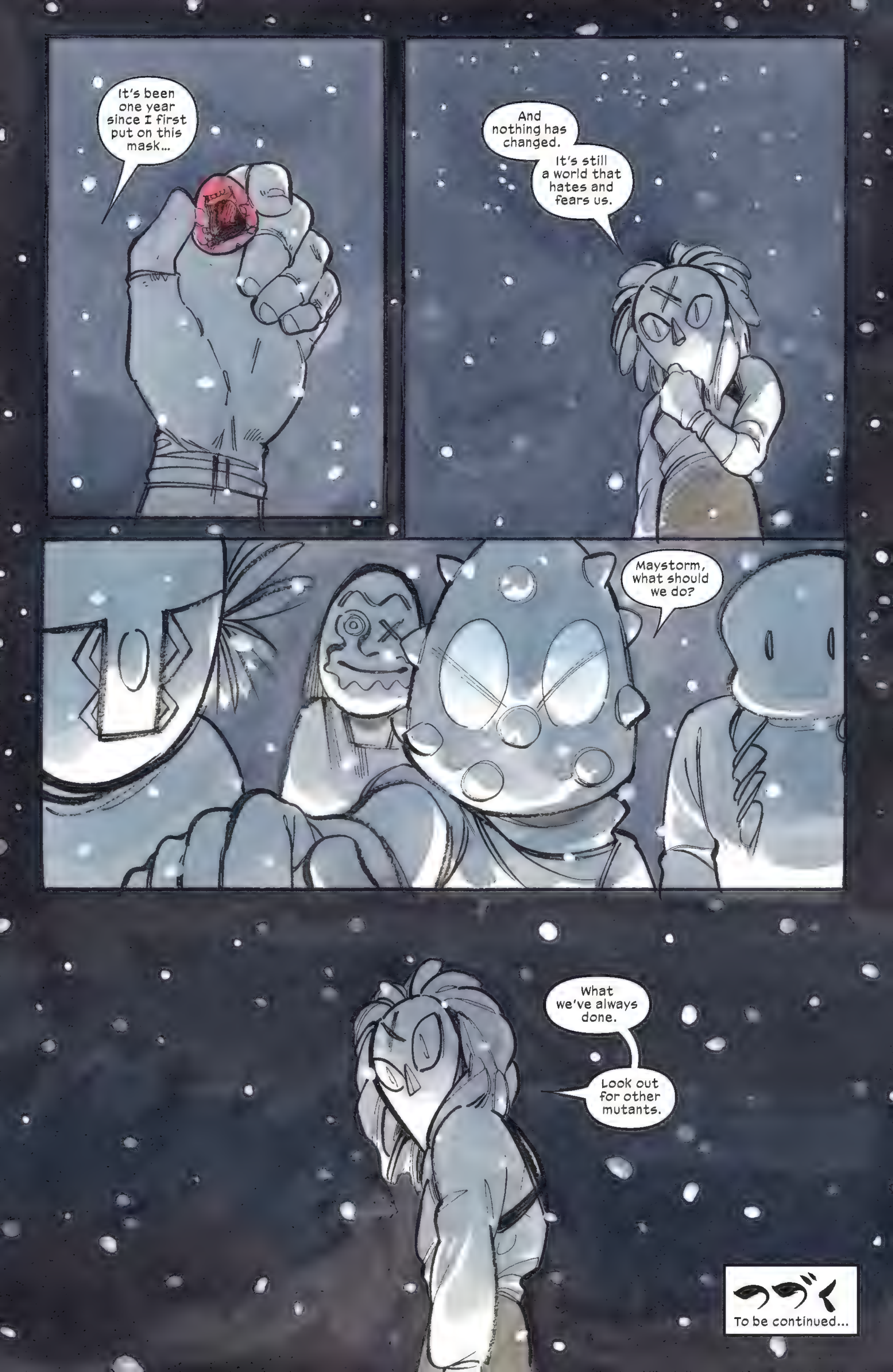

Gyaaah!
Hi-chan...?


I'm on it. I've already sent a crew to collect the MY-X soldiers.
Yes, sir. We've lost Kageyama's signal completely. Correct. We're getting no readings for his vitals. No, I cannot confirm that. We don't know at this stage.
Hisako? That's... There seems to be some glitch in the system. She appears to be in multiple locations simultaneously.
Yes, that is impossible. I don't have enough data to guess what happened to her.


CHRISTMAS.
Hi, Nico!
Still no Mei, *huh?*
No, Mori. Still no Mei. Sorry.
Let's just enjoy Christmas together.
To Hisako!
To Hisako!
To Hisako!


You know, whenever I see Mei...she acts like nothing happened. I'm worried about her.
Yeah, same. I don't think she's handling this well.
Nor do I. It's unhealthy.
Maybe she just needs to keep doing stuff. To stay busy.
I kinda understand how she feels.
Natsu, when you were gone, sitting still drove me *crazy*...
Look...
It's snowing...


Hisako?
You're alive somewhere. I feel it.
And we're going to find you. We'll never quit. And while we look for you, we'll help our fellow mutants.
In the name of the X-Men.
Is that... okay with everyone?
Where to next, Maystorm?
You hear they're blaming that train crash on mutants? That's a lie!
We're getting blamed for everything!
All they do is tell lies about us online.
But the net's all we have...


It's been one year since I first put on this mask...
And nothing has changed.
It's still a world that hates and fears us.
Maystorm, what should we do?
What we've always done.
Look out for other mutants.
つづく
To be continued...

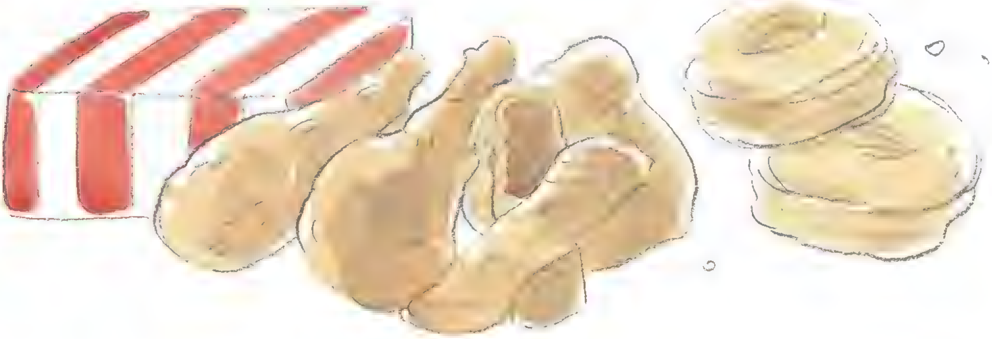
CHRISTMAS FRIED CHICKEN

クリスマスのフライドチキン

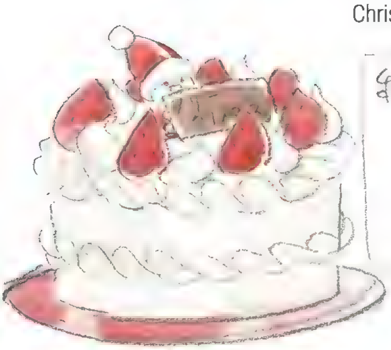
Many families in Japan eat fried chicken and strawberry short cake on Christmas. You need to reserve your food in advance in order to celebrate Christmas with the popular fried chicken fast food.

クリスマスには フライドチキンとストロベリーショートケーキを食べる家が多い。

日本では、みんな知ってる有名フライドチキン屋さんが大人気で、25日の当日に行っても予約でいっぱいで買えません☹



When I was young, I always thought of this fried chicken fast food as a luxury, something we could only afford on a special day like Christmas. I still think of it as a luxury.



私が当時子供の頃、そこのフライドチキン屋さんは
とても贅沢な食べ物だったので、
クリスマスにしか食べれない特別なものでした…。

大人になった今でも そう思っています☺

Kirisaki Fried Chicken

霧咲・フライド・チキン

Merry Christmas!

WRITER & ARTIST: **PEACH MOMOKO**

SCRIPT ADAPTATION: **ZACK DAVISSON**
LETTERER: **VC's TRAVIS LANHAM**

COVER ARTIST: **PEACH MOMOKO**

VARIANT
COVER ARTISTS: **PEACH MOMOKO; OLIVIER VATINE**

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ASSISTANT EDITOR: **MICHELLE MARCHESE**
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X-MEN CREATED BY **STAN LEE** & **JACK KIRBY**

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X-MEN
PEACH MOMOKO

ON SALE IN **JANUARY**

ON SALE THIS MONTH

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ULTIMATE
SPIDER-MAN

ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN #24

BY **JONATHAN HICKMAN**,
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BLACK PANTHER

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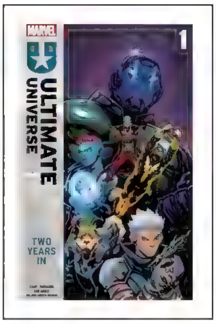

MARVEL
1
ULTIMATE
UNIVERSE
TWO
YEARS
IN

ULTIMATE UNIVERSE: TWO YEARS IN #1

BY **DENIZ CAMP**,
ALEX PAKNADEL & **MORE**

MARVEL
1
ULTIMATE
ENDGAME

ULTIMATE ENDGAME #1

BY **DENIZ CAMP**,
TERRY DODSON & **JONAS SCHARF**

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU! EMAIL US AT **ULTIMATEOFFICE@MARVEL.COM** AND MARK YOUR LETTERS **"OKAY TO PRINT"**!

19

[NOTE: THIS ISSUE TAKES PLACE AFTER *ULTIMATE ENDGAME #1*.]

A diabolical genius known as **THE MAKER** used time travel to create his ideal Earth by systematically preventing anyone from ever becoming a super hero and by establishing a secret council of super villains, **THE MAKER'S COUNCIL**, that rules the world from the shadows.

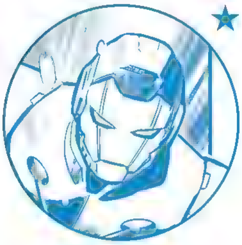
Then the Maker was locked away for two years inside **THE CITY** by inventor **HOWARD STARK**. Howard's teenage son, **TONY**, took on the codename **IRON LAD** and began recruiting a network of heroes to fight back against the Maker's Council and prepare for the Maker's return.

And that return is finally here. Iron Lad projected a rousing message across the globe about the true history of the world, inspiring civilians to rise up against the Maker's Council while the **ULTIMATES** battle the Maker.

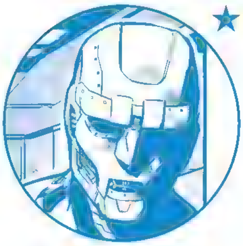
But no one knows that **WASP** has been secretly reporting to **NICK FURY** of **H.A.N.D.**, the Council's covert military force. And somehow a fleet of H.A.N.D. Helicarriers just found the Ultimates' cloaked satellite headquarters...and blew it up.

THE ULTIMATES

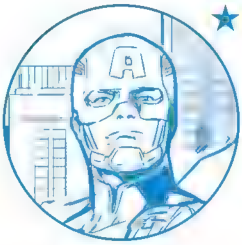
CAST:



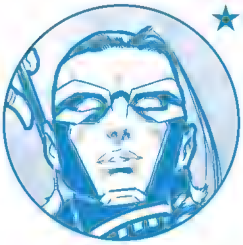
IRON LAD
TONY STARK



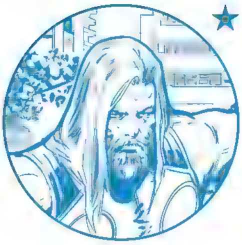
DOOM
REED RICHARDS



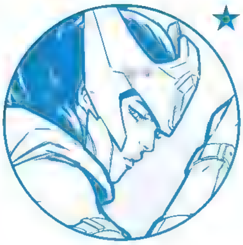
CAPTAIN AMERICA
STEVE ROGERS



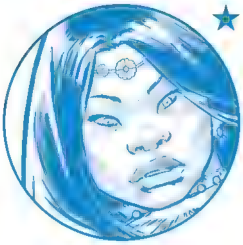
HAWKEYE
CHARLI RAMSEY



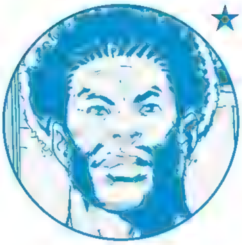
THOR
GOD OF THUNDER



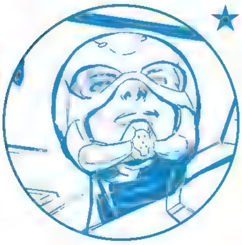
SIF
WARRIOR GODDESS



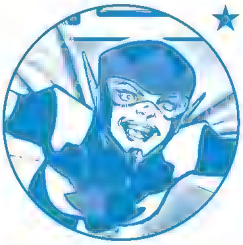
SHE-HULK
LEJORI JOENA ZAKARIA



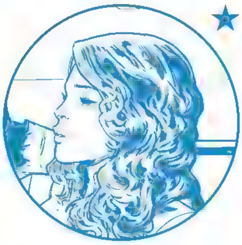
LUKE CAGE
PRISON REVOLTER



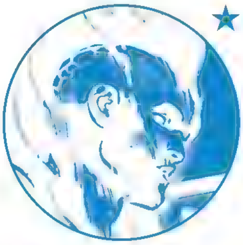
GIANT-MAN
HANK PYM



WASP
JANET VAN DYNE

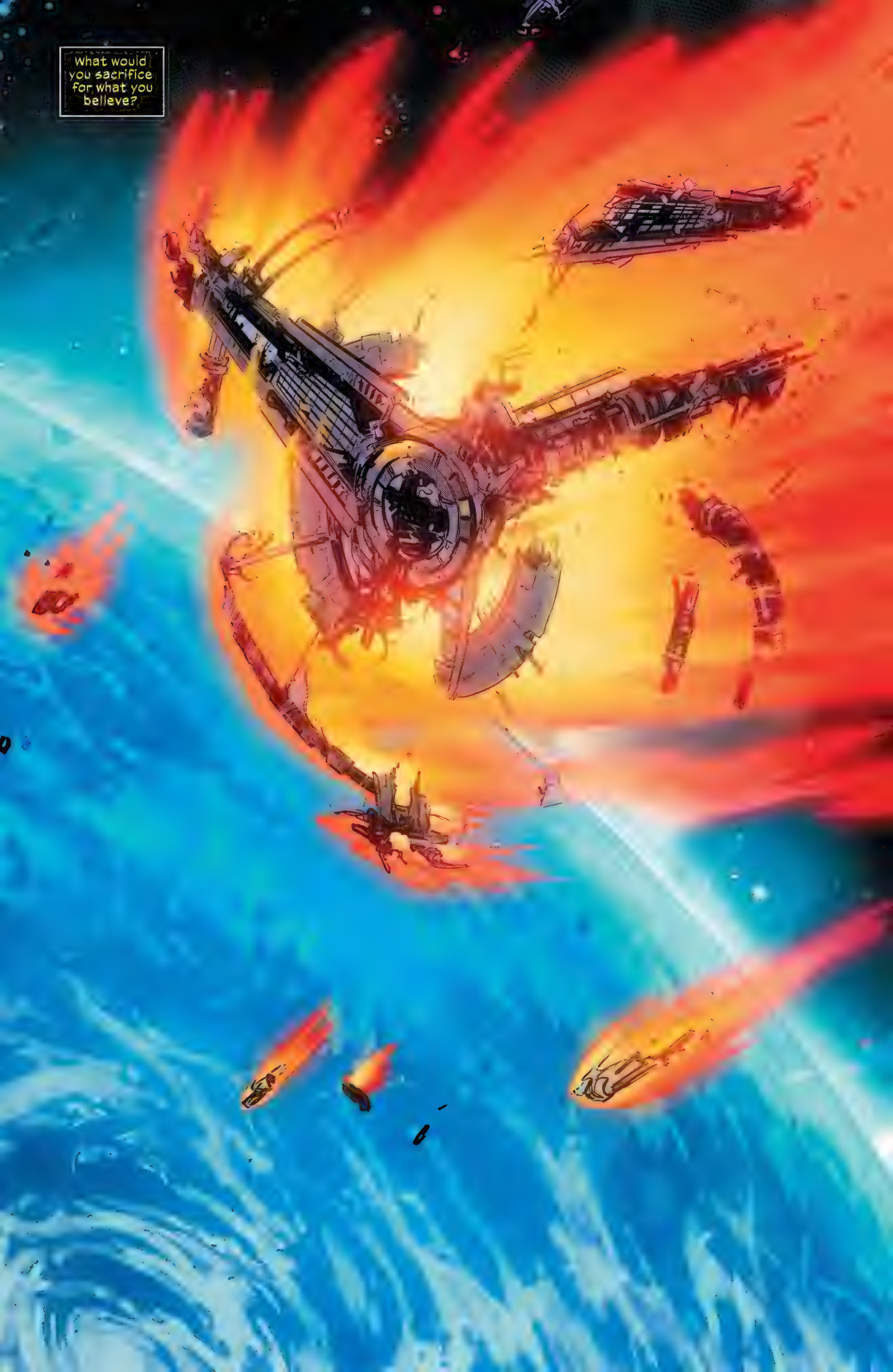


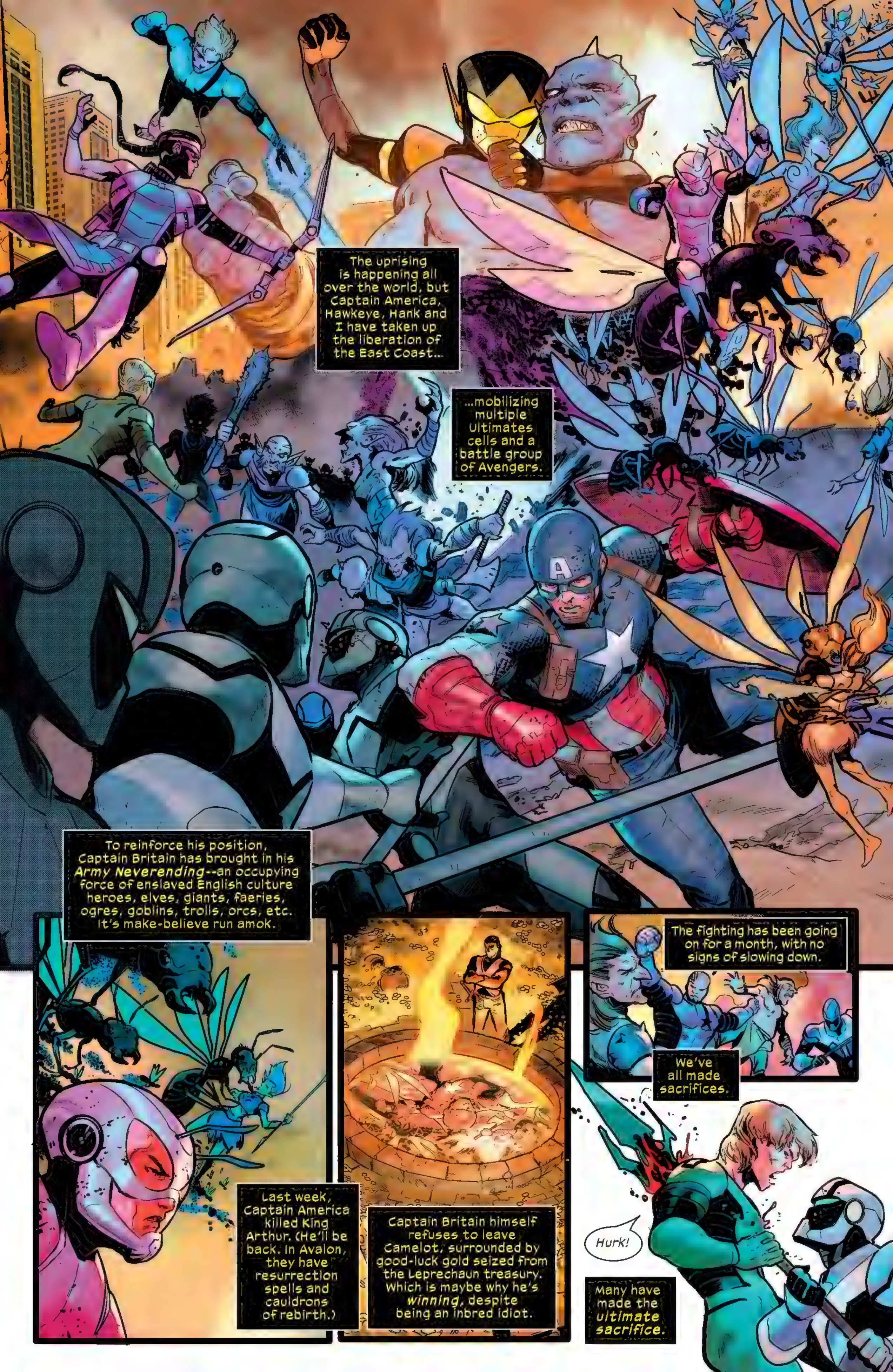
AMERICA CHAVEZ
COSMIC POWERHOUSE

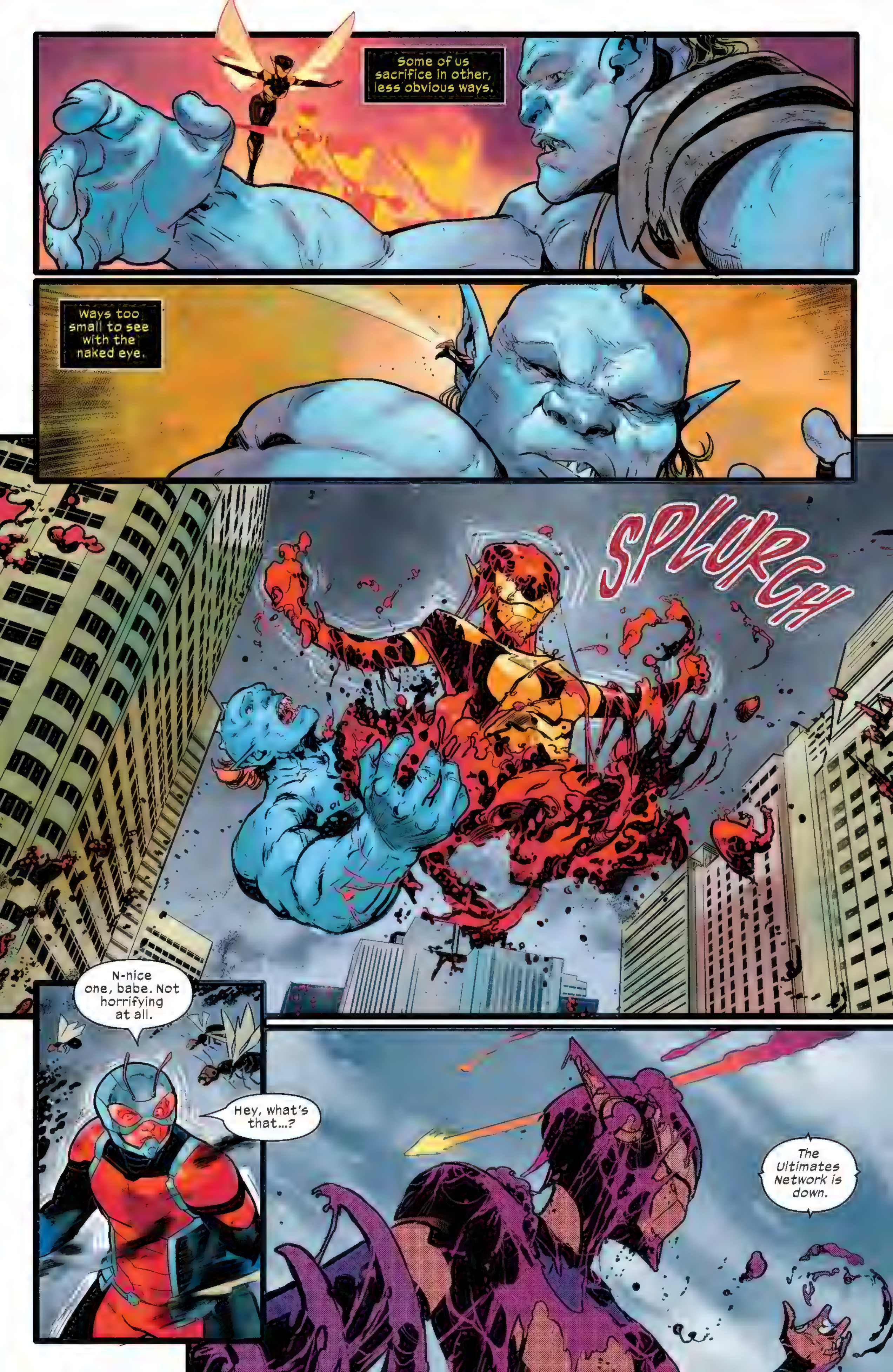


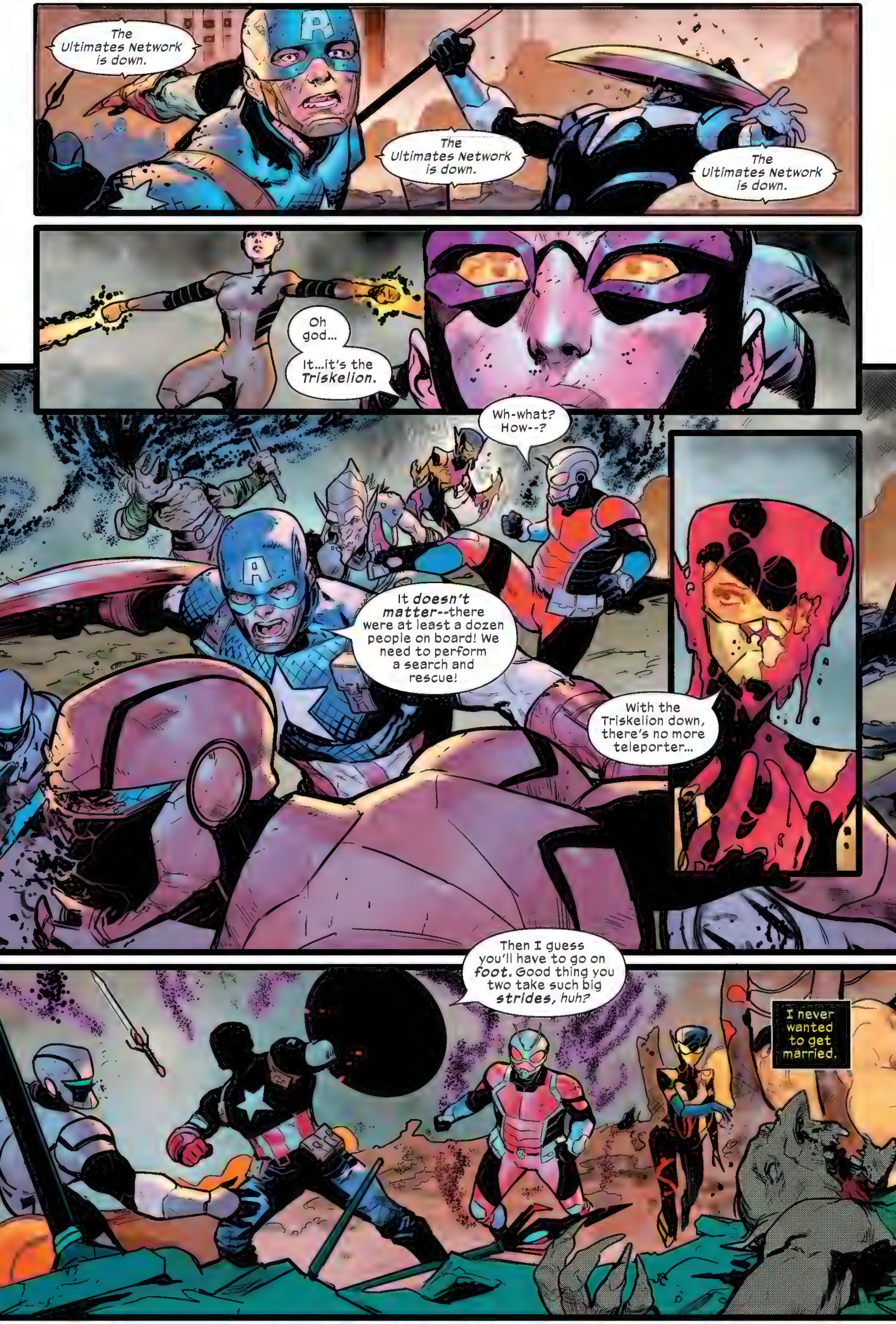
THE HUMAN TORCH
JIM HAMMOND

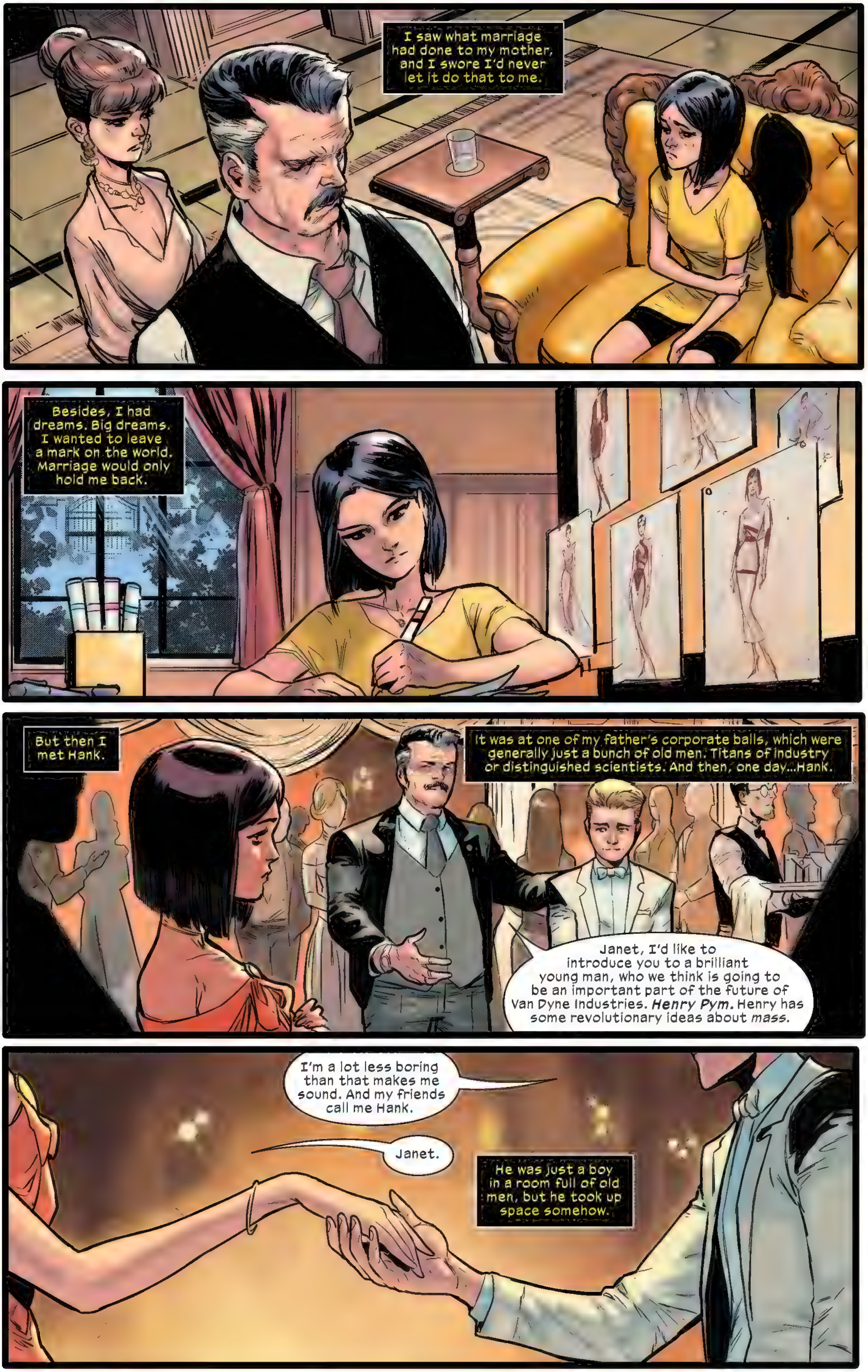
DECEMBER 2025

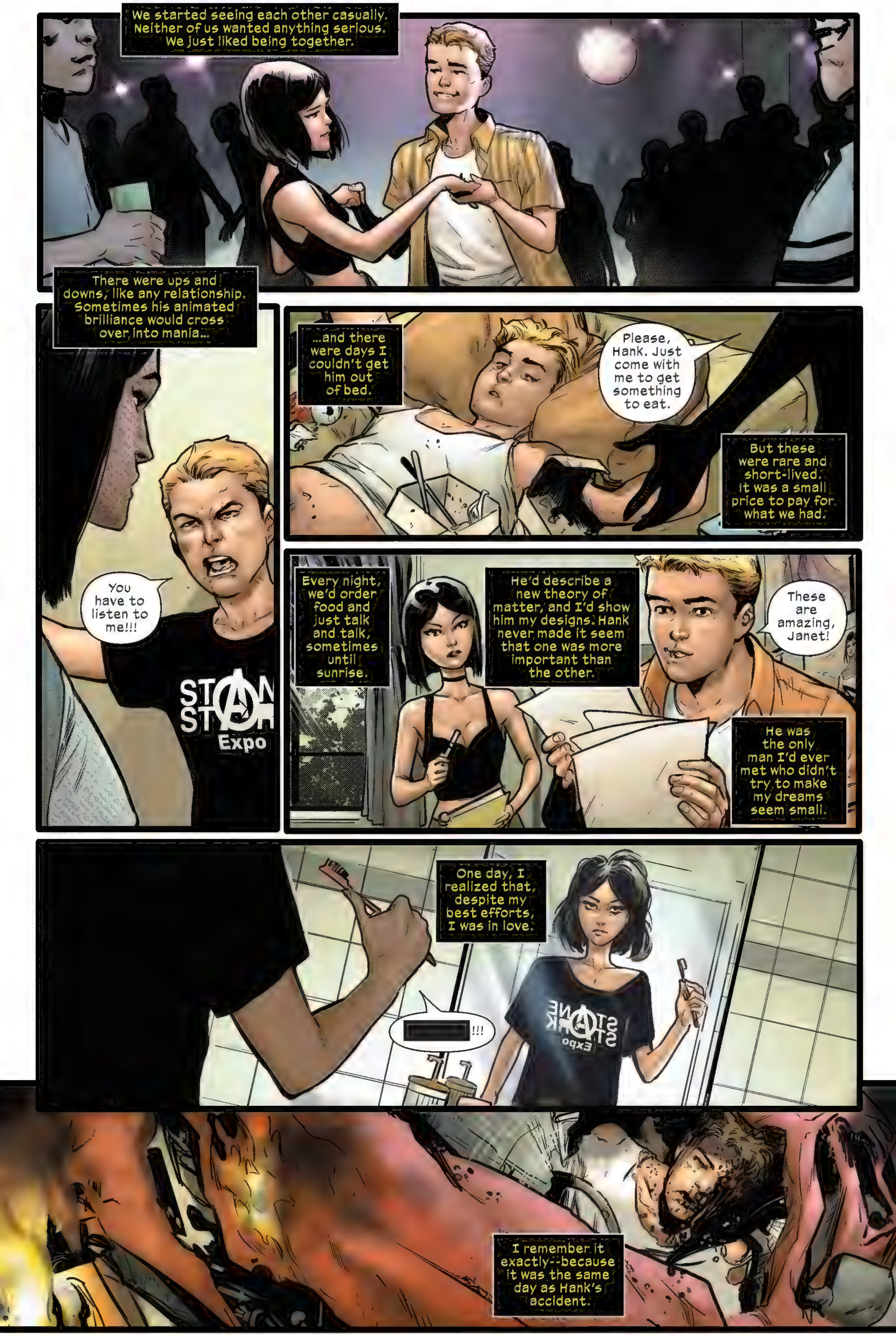

What would you sacrifice for what you believe?

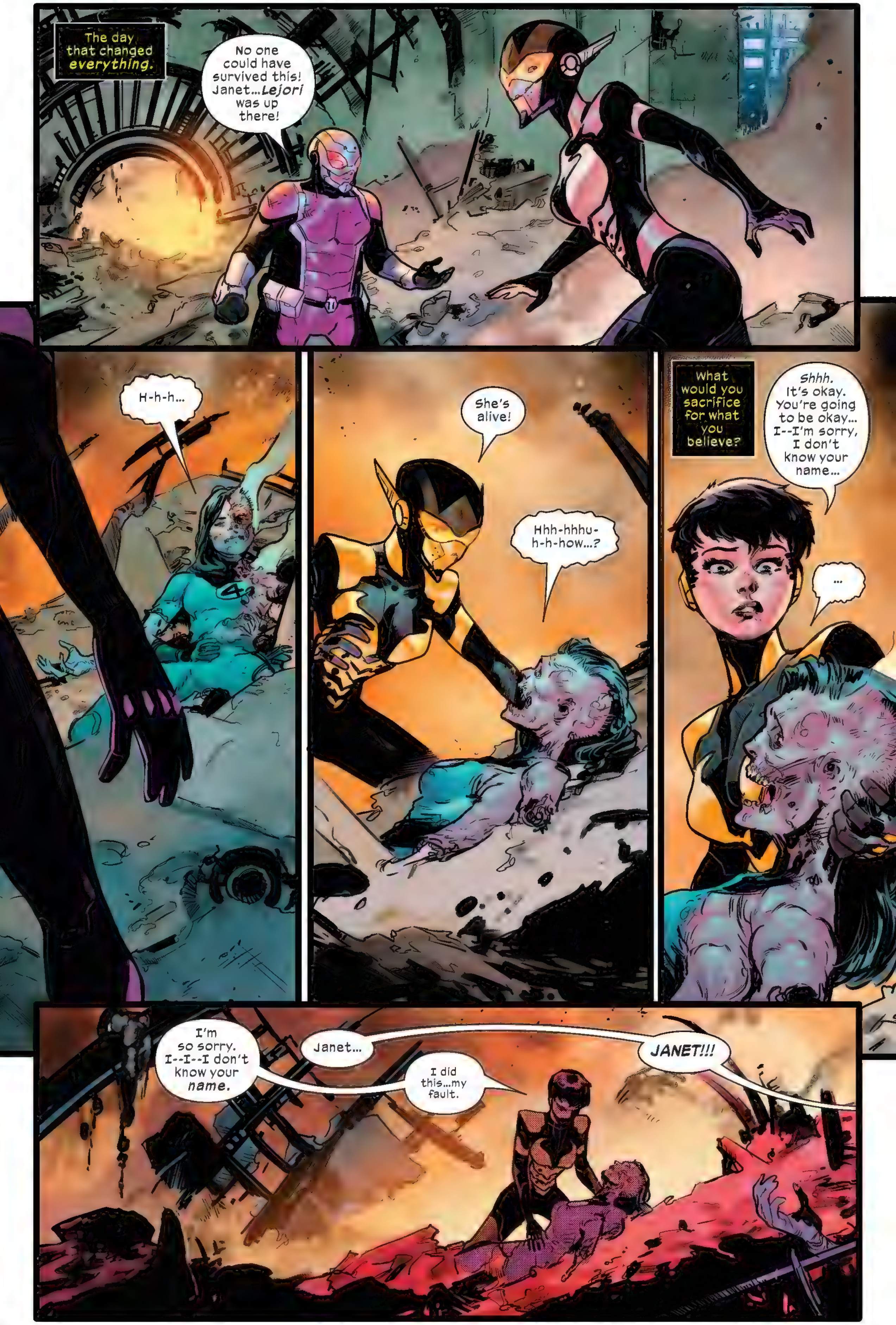

The uprising is happening all over the world, but Captain America, Hawkeye, Hank and I have taken up the liberation of the East Coast...
...mobilizing multiple Ultimates cells and a battle group of Avengers.
To reinforce his position, Captain Britain has brought in his *Army Neverending*--an occupying force of enslaved English culture heroes, elves, giants, faeries, ogres, goblins, trolls, orcs, etc. It's make-believe run amok.
Last week, Captain America killed King Arthur. (He'll be back. In Avalon, they have resurrection spells and cauldrons of rebirth.)
Captain Britain himself refuses to leave Camelot, surrounded by good-luck gold seized from the Leprechaun treasury. Which is maybe why he's *winning*, despite being an inbred idiot.
The fighting has been going on for a month, with no signs of slowing down.
We've all made sacrifices.
Hurk!
Many have made the *ultimate sacrifice.*

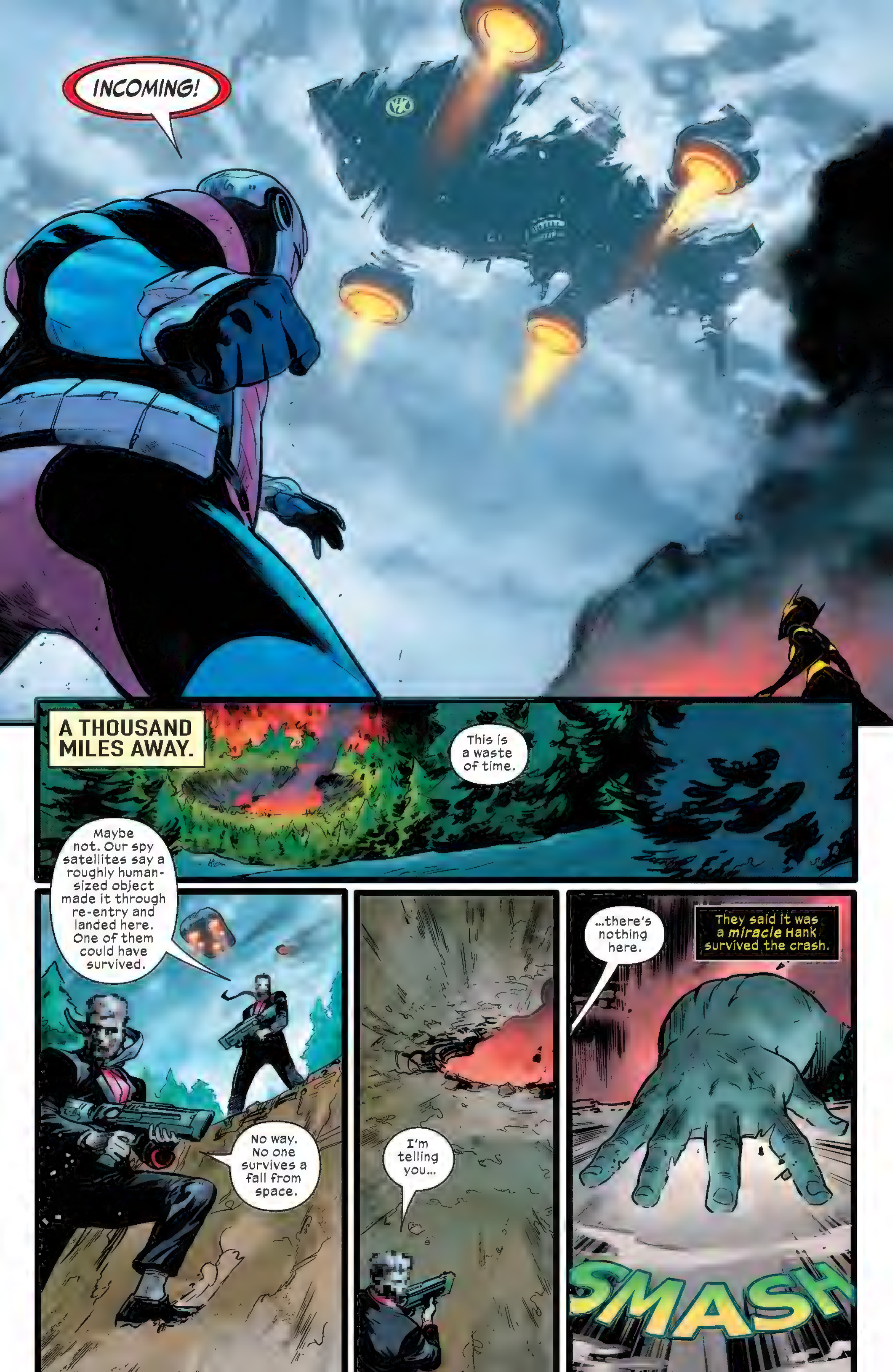

Some of us sacrifice in other, less obvious ways.
Ways too small to see with the naked eye.
SPLURCH
N-nice one, babe. Not horrifying at all.
Hey, what's that...?
The Ultimates Network is down.

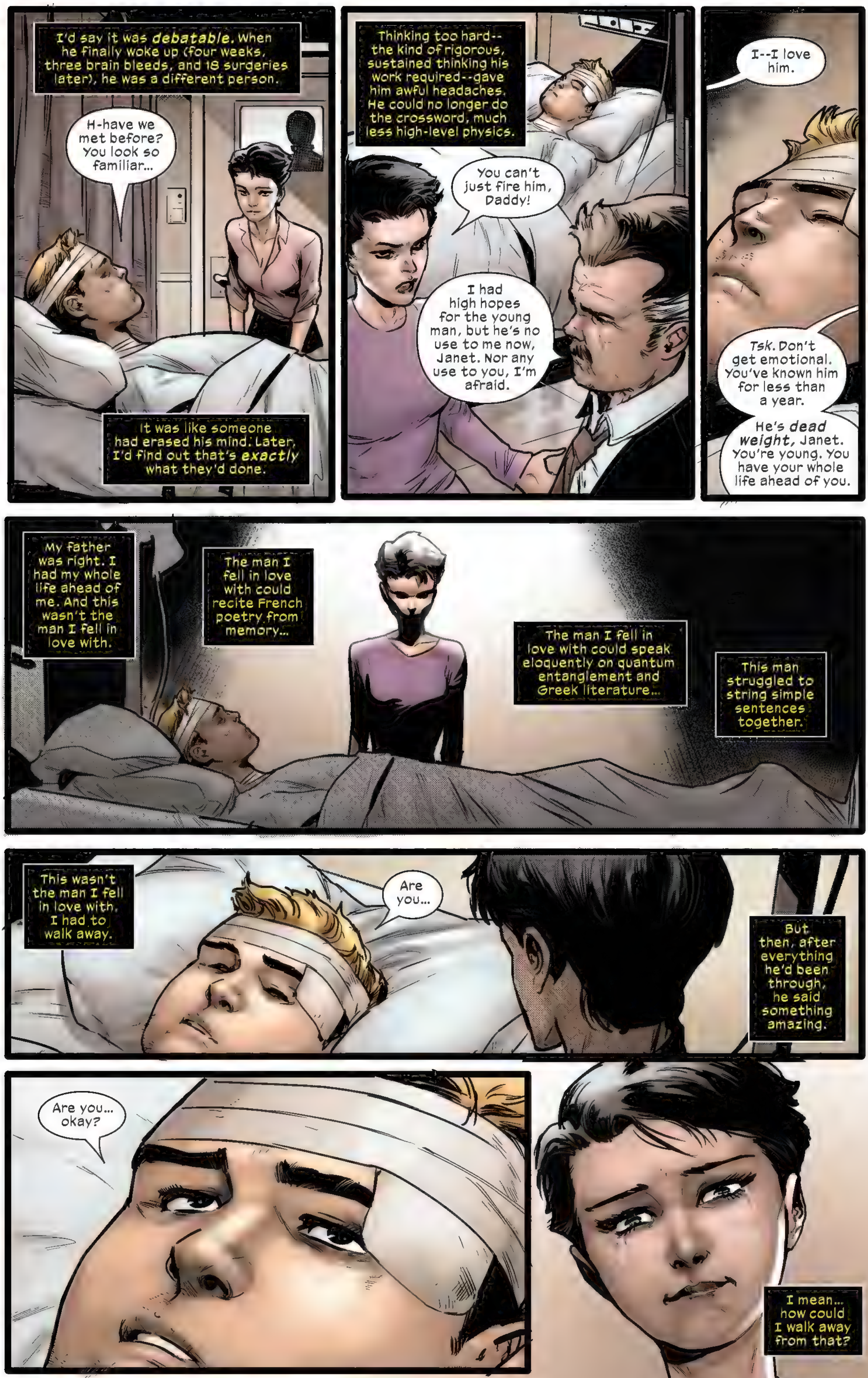

The Ultimates Network is down.
The Ultimates Network is down.
The Ultimates Network is down.
Oh god...
It...it's the *Triskelion.*
Wh-what? How--?
It *doesn't matter*--there were at least a dozen people on board! We need to perform a search and rescue!
With the Triskelion down, there's no more teleporter...
Then I guess you'll have to go on *foot.* Good thing you two take such big *strides, huh?*
I never wanted to get married.

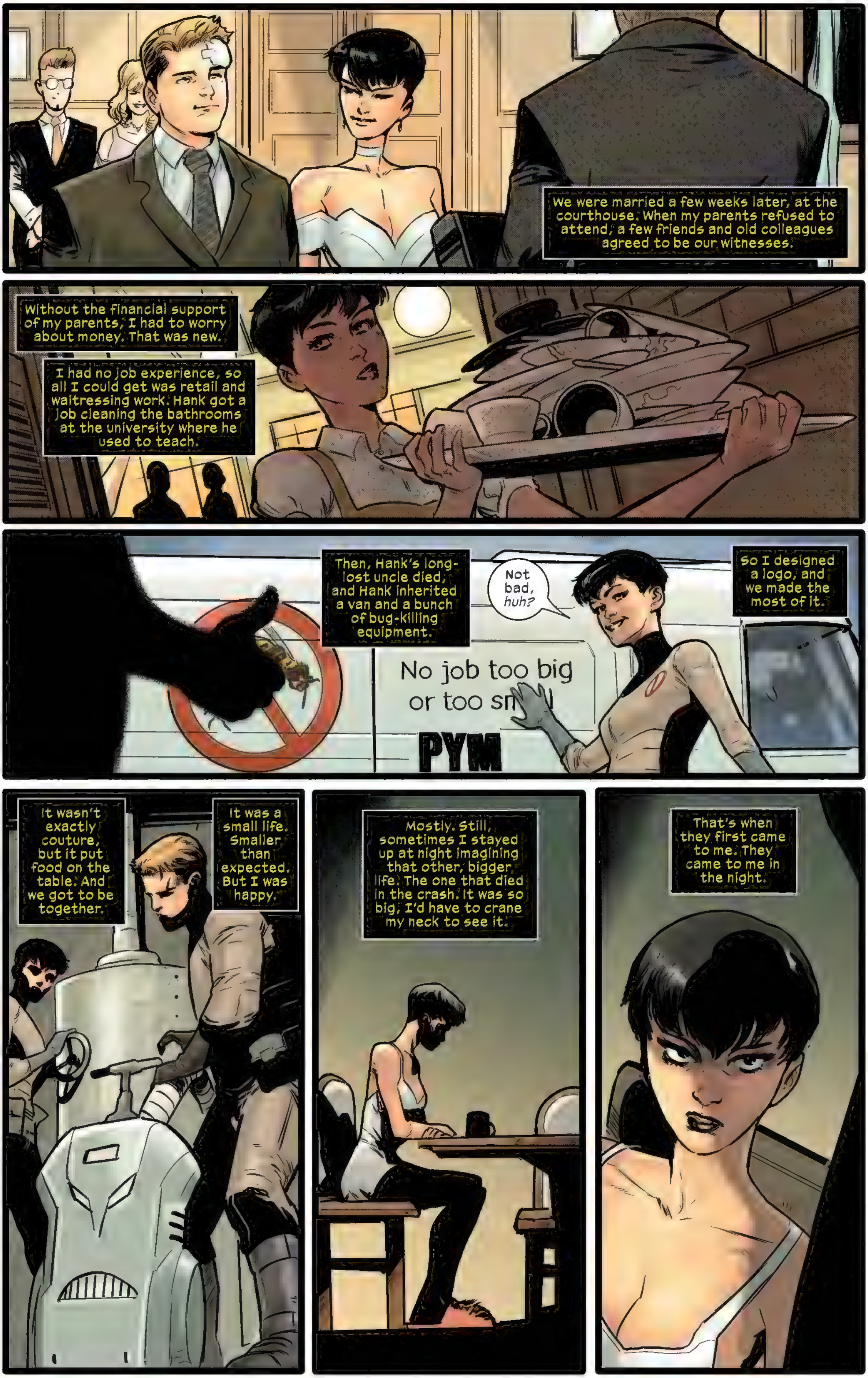

I saw what marriage had done to my mother, and I swore I'd never let it do that to me.
Besides, I had dreams. Big dreams. I wanted to leave a mark on the world. Marriage would only hold me back.
But then I met Hank.
It was at one of my father's corporate balls, which were generally just a bunch of old men. Titans of industry or distinguished scientists. And then, one day...Hank.
Janet, I'd like to introduce you to a brilliant young man, who we think is going to be an important part of the future of Van Dyne Industries. ***Henry Pym.*** Henry has some revolutionary ideas about *mass.*
I'm a lot less boring than that makes me sound. And my friends call me Hank.
Janet.
He was just a boy in a room full of old men, but he took up space somehow.

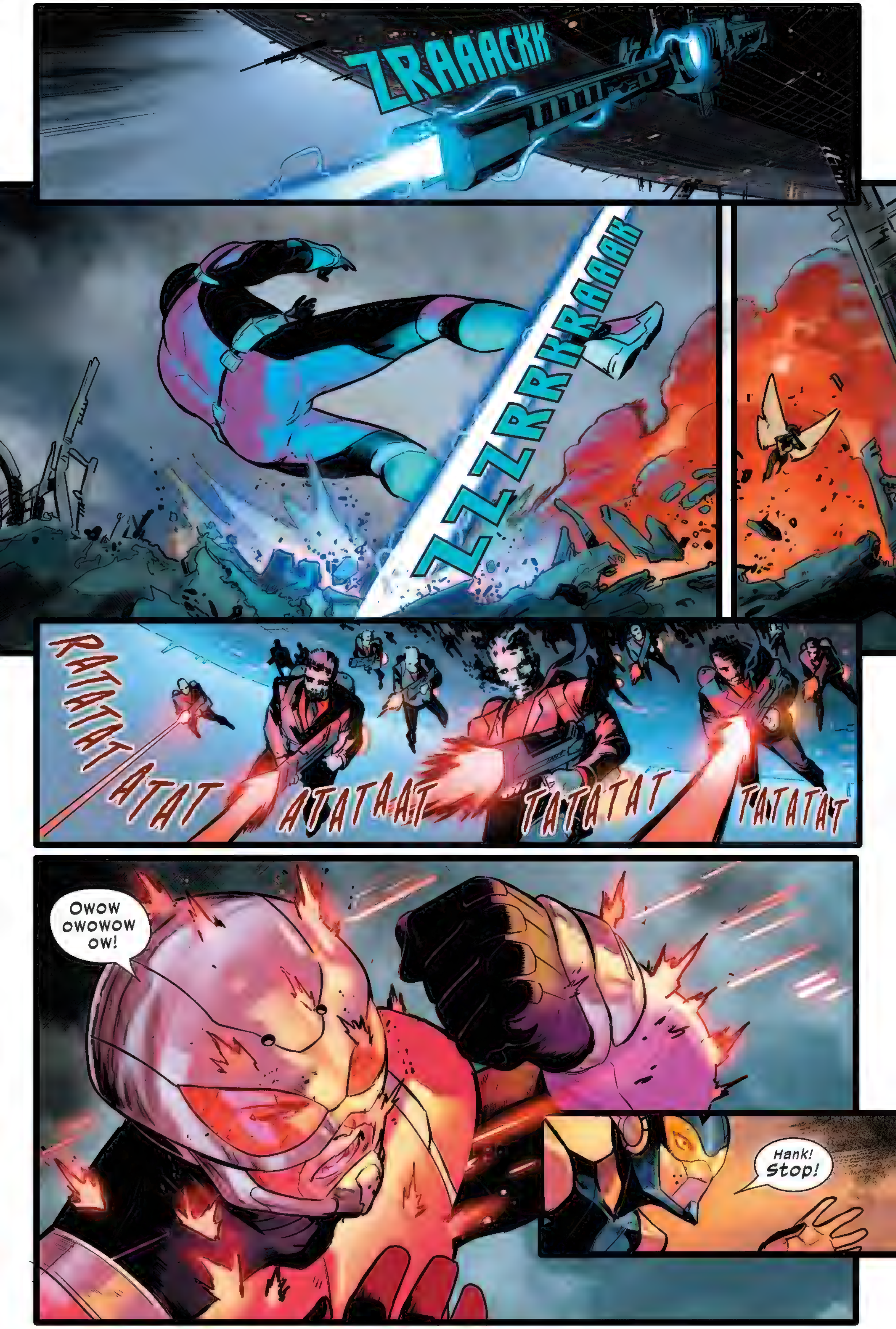

We started seeing each other casually. Neither of us wanted anything serious. We just liked being together.
There were ups and downs, like any relationship. Sometimes his animated brilliance would cross over into mania...
You have to listen to me!!!
STAN STARK Expo
...and there were days I couldn't get him out of bed.
Please, Hank. Just come with me to get something to eat.
But these were rare and short-lived. It was a small price to pay for what we had.
Every night, we'd order food and just talk and talk, sometimes until sunrise.
He'd describe a new theory of matter, and I'd show him my designs. Hank never made it seem that one was more important than the other.
These are amazing, Janet!
He was the only man I'd ever met who didn't try to make my dreams seem small.
One day, I realized that, despite my best efforts, I was in love.
[redacted]!!!
I remember it exactly--because it was the same day as Hank's accident.

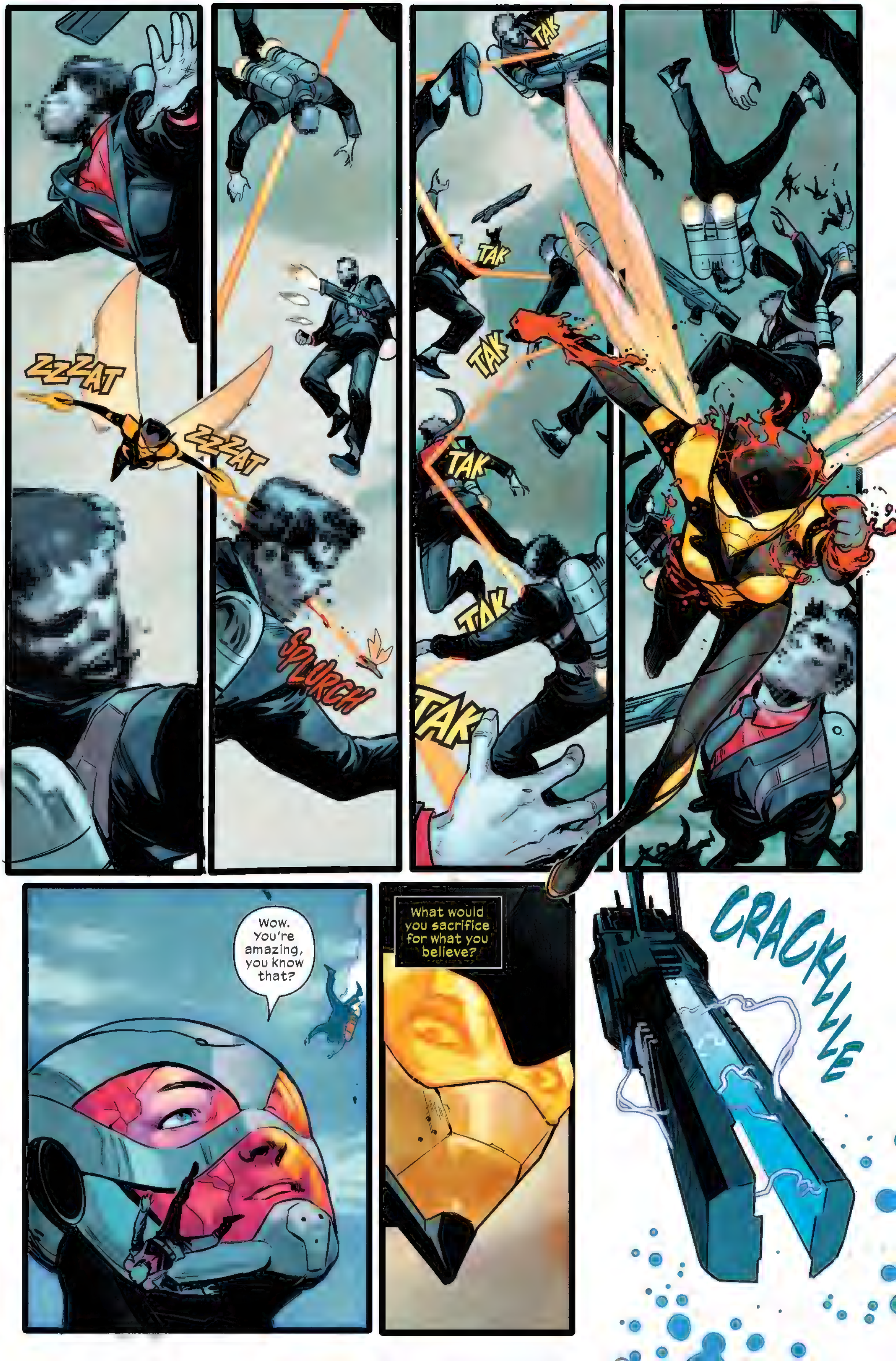

The day that changed *everything.*
No one could have survived this! Janet...*Lejori* was up there!
H-h-h...
She's alive!
Hhh-hhhu-h-h-how...?
What would you sacrifice for what you believe?
Shhh. It's okay. You're going to be okay... I--I'm sorry, I don't know your name...
...
I'm so sorry. I--I--I don't know your *name.*
Janet...
I did this...my fault.
JANET!!!

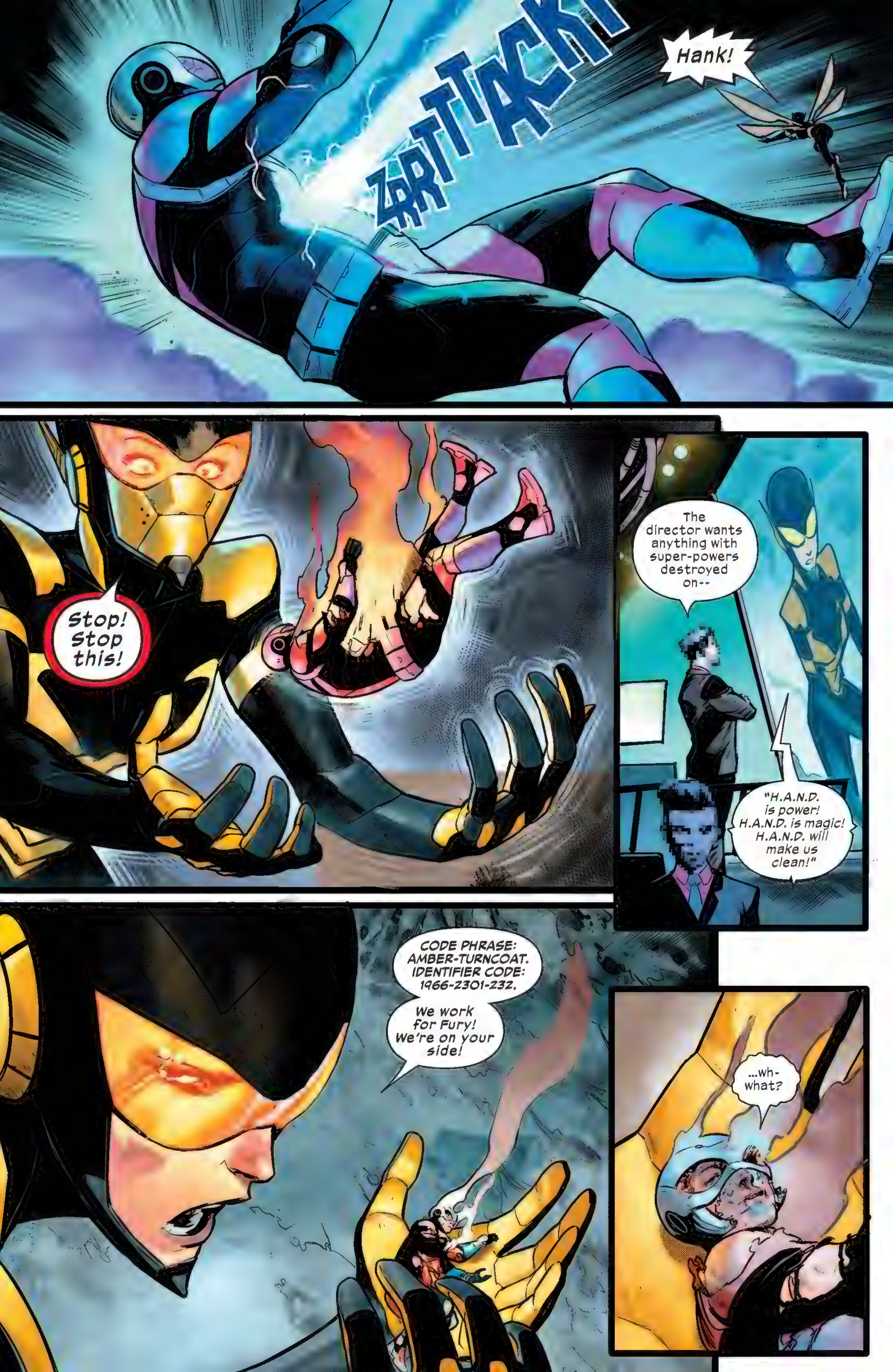

INCOMING!
A THOUSAND MILES AWAY.
This is a waste of time.
Maybe not. Our spy satellites say a roughly human-sized object made it through re-entry and landed here. One of them could have survived.
No way. No one survives a fall from space.
I'm telling you...
...there's nothing here.
They said it was a *miracle* Hank survived the crash.
SMASH

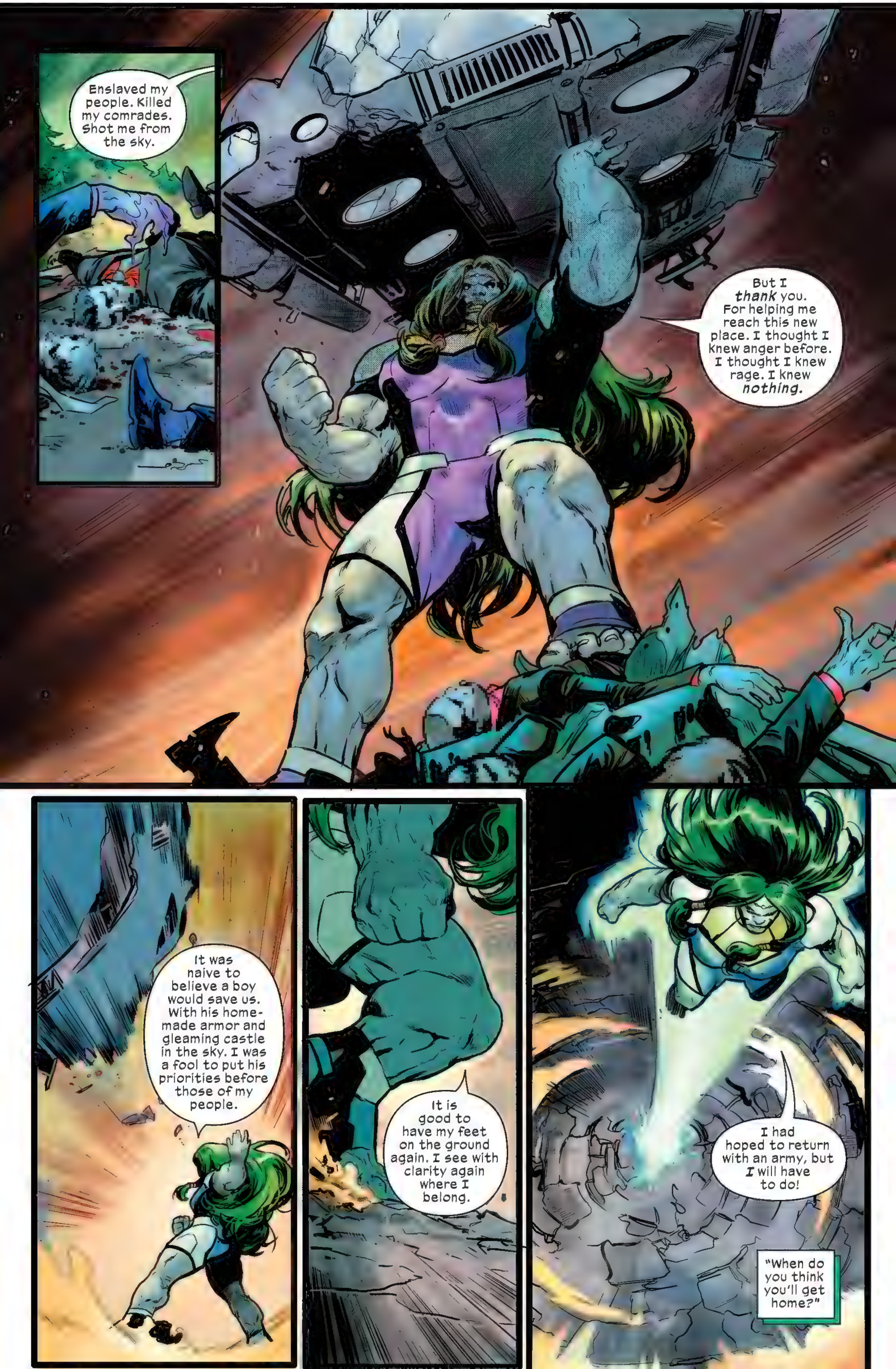

I'd say it was *debatable.* When he finally woke up (four weeks, three brain bleeds, and 18 surgeries later), he was a different person.
H-have we met before? You look so familiar...
It was like someone had erased his mind. Later, I'd find out that's *exactly* what they'd done.
Thinking too hard--the kind of rigorous, sustained thinking his work required--gave him awful headaches. He could no longer do the crossword, much less high-level physics.
You can't just fire him, Daddy!
I had high hopes for the young man, but he's no use to me now, Janet. Nor any use to you, I'm afraid.
I--I love him.
Tsk. Don't get emotional. You've known him for less than a year.
He's *dead weight,* Janet. You're young. You have your whole life ahead of you.
My father was right. I had my whole life ahead of me. And this wasn't the man I fell in love with.
The man I fell in love with could recite French poetry from memory...
The man I fell in love with could speak eloquently on quantum entanglement and Greek literature...
This man struggled to string simple sentences together.
This wasn't the man I fell in love with. I had to walk away.
Are you...
But then, after everything he'd been through, he said something amazing.
Are you... okay?
I mean... how could I walk away from that?

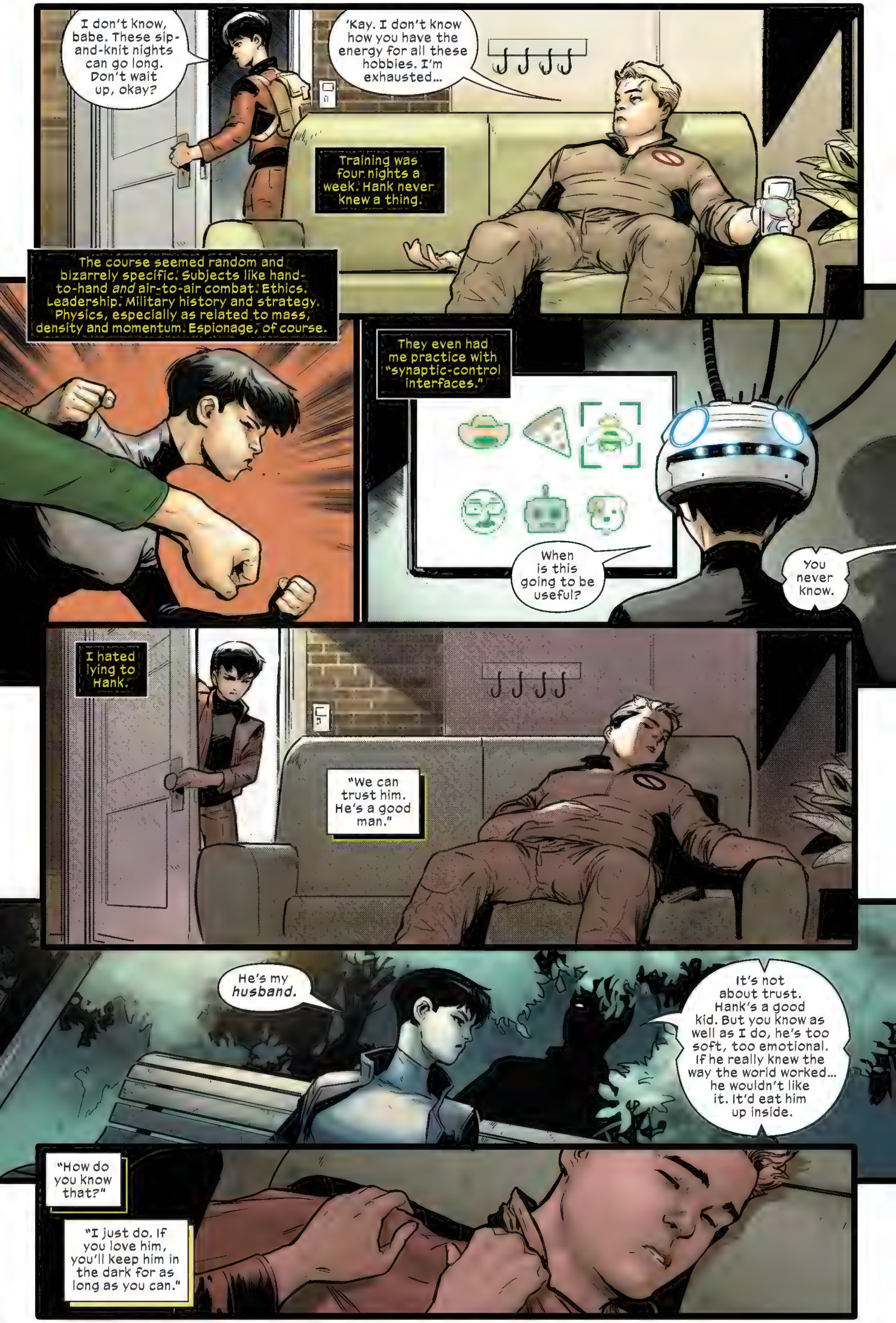

We were married a few weeks later, at the courthouse. When my parents refused to attend, a few friends and old colleagues agreed to be our witnesses.
Without the financial support of my parents, I had to worry about money. That was new.
I had no job experience, so all I could get was retail and waitressing work. Hank got a job cleaning the bathrooms at the university where he used to teach.
Then, Hank's long-lost uncle died, and Hank inherited a van and a bunch of bug-killing equipment.
Not bad, *huh?*
So I designed a logo, and we made the most of it.
No job too big
or too sm
PYM
It wasn't exactly couture, but it put food on the table. And we got to be together.
It was a small life. Smaller than expected. But I was happy.
Mostly. Still, sometimes I stayed up at night imagining that other, bigger life. The one that died in the crash. It was so big, I'd have to crane my neck to see it.
That's when they first came to me. They came to me in the night.

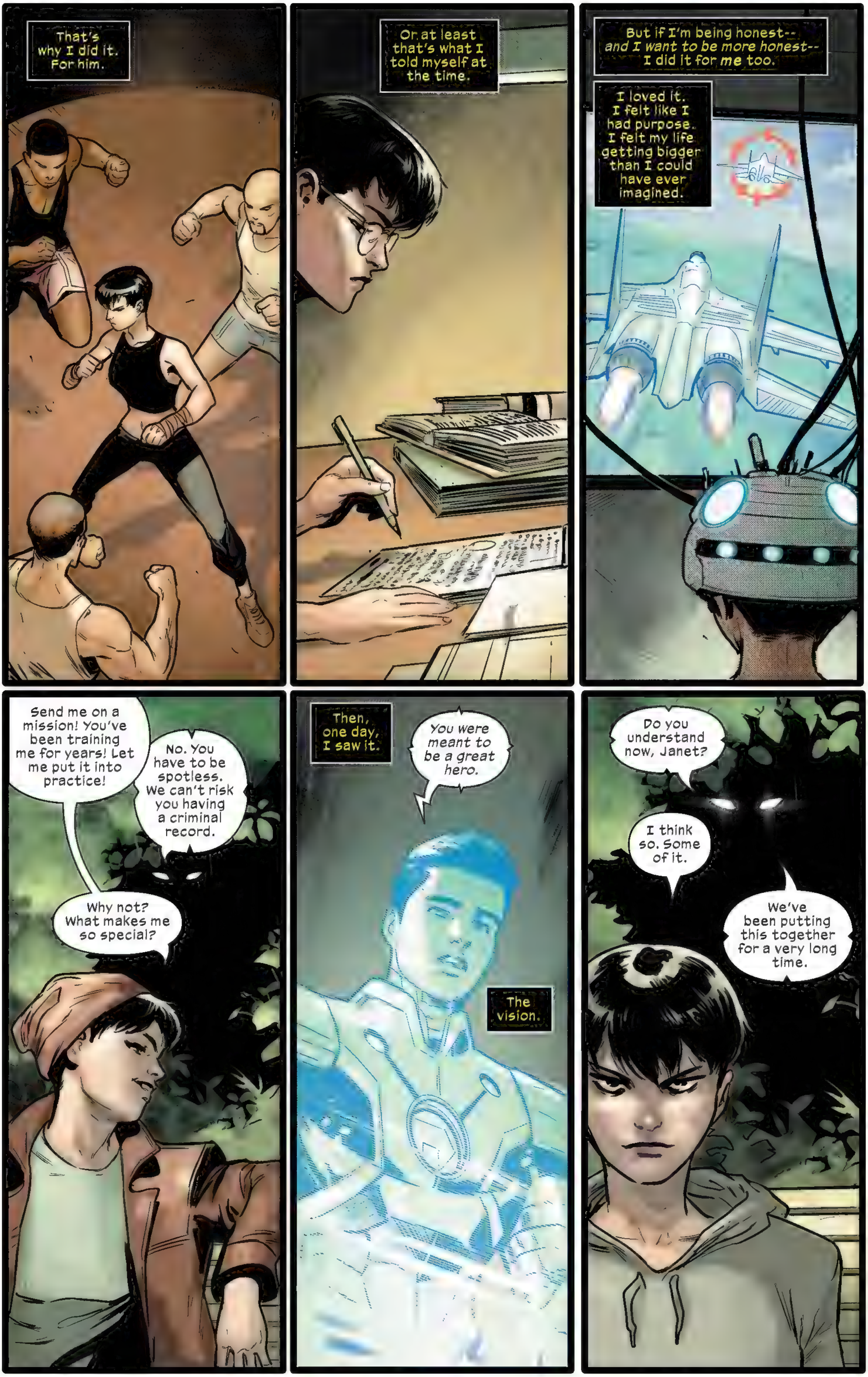

ZRAAACKK
ZZZRRRKRAAAK
RATATATATAT
ATATAAT
TATATAT
TATATAT
Owow owowow ow!
Hank! Stop!

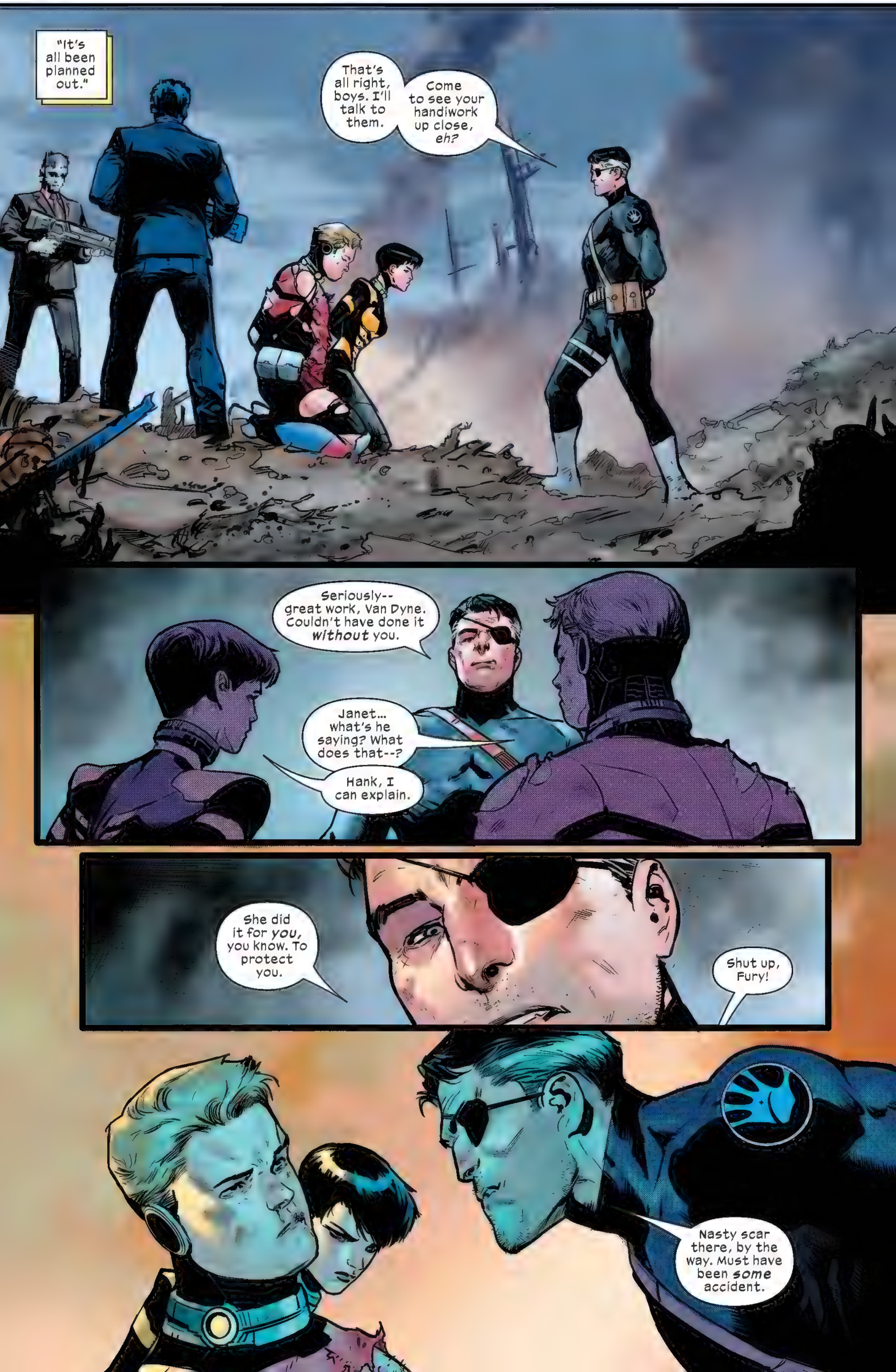

ZZZAT
ZZZAT
SPLURCH
TAK
TAK
TAK
TAK
TAK
TAK
Wow. You're amazing, you know that?
What would you sacrifice for what you believe?
CRACKLLE

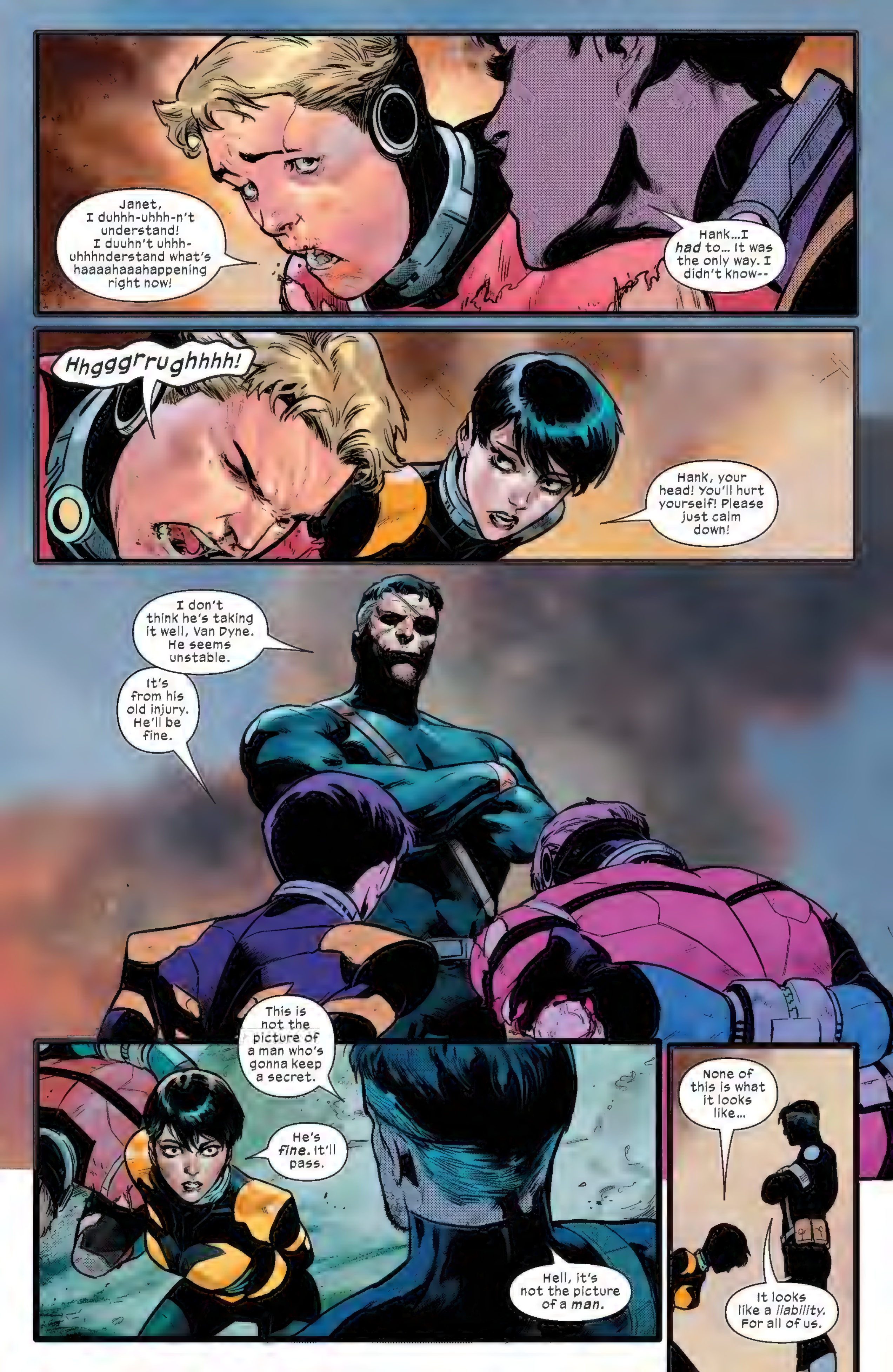

ZZRRTTTACK!
Hank!
Stop! Stop this!
The director wants anything with super-powers destroyed on--
"H.A.N.D. is power! H.A.N.D. is magic! H.A.N.D. will make us clean!"
CODE PHRASE: AMBER-TURNCOAT. IDENTIFIER CODE: 1966-2301-232.
We work for Fury! We're on your side!
...wh- what?

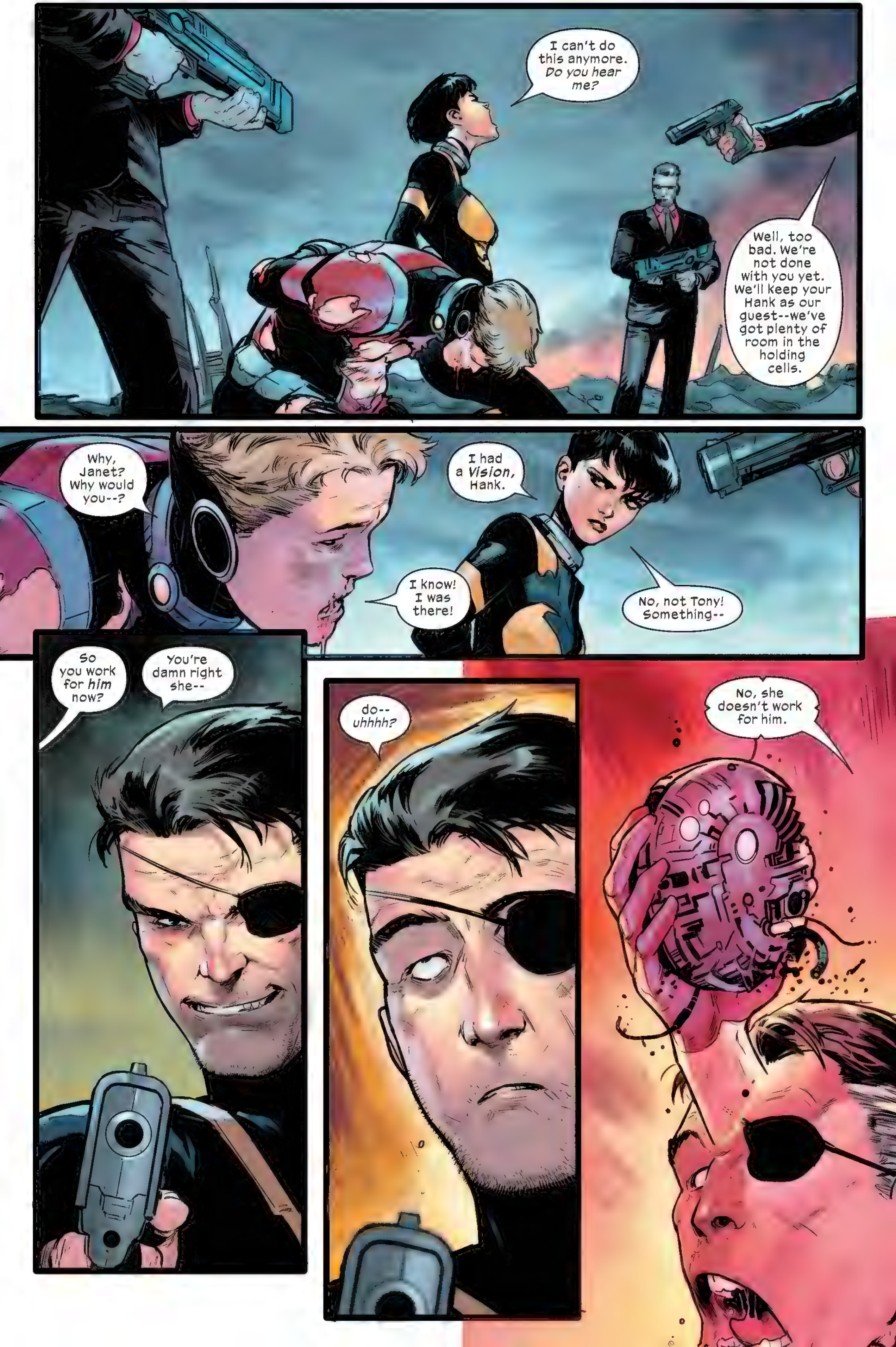

Enslaved my people. Killed my comrades. Shot me from the sky.
But I *thank* you. For helping me reach this new place. I thought I knew anger before. I thought I knew rage. I knew *nothing*.
It was naive to believe a boy would save us. With his home-made armor and gleaming castle in the sky. I was a fool to put his priorities before those of my people.
It is good to have my feet on the ground again. I see with clarity again where I belong.
I had hoped to return with an army, but *I* will have to do!
"When do you think you'll get home?"

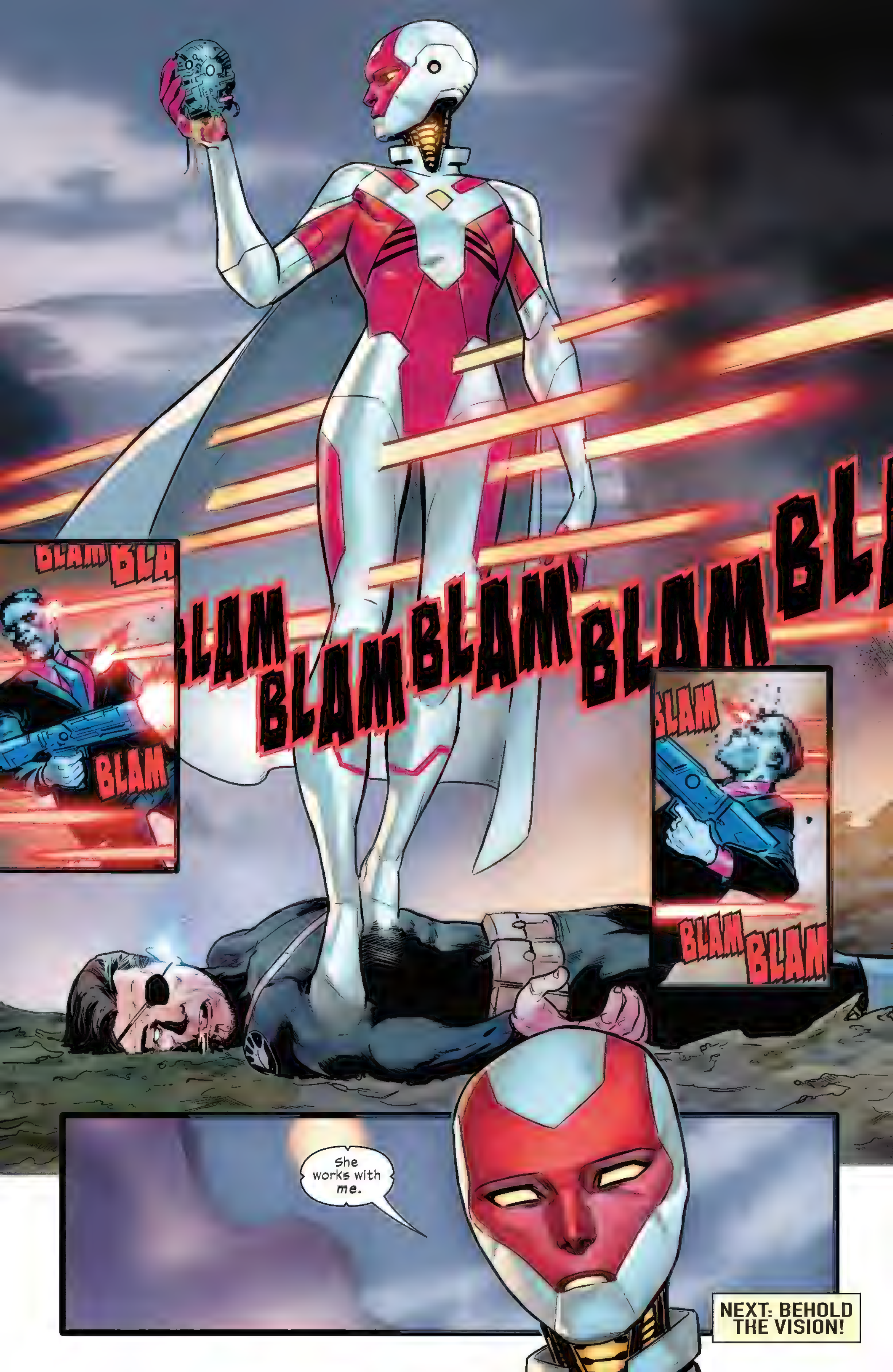

I don't know, babe. These sip-and-knit nights can go long. Don't wait up, okay?
'Kay. I don't know how you have the energy for all these hobbies. I'm exhausted...
Training was four nights a week. Hank never knew a thing.
The course seemed random and bizarrely specific. Subjects like hand-to-hand *and* air-to-air combat. Ethics. Leadership. Military history and strategy. Physics, especially as related to mass, density and momentum. Espionage, of course.
They even had me practice with "synaptic-control interfaces."
When is this going to be useful?
You never know.
I hated lying to Hank.
"We can trust him. He's a good man."
He's my *husband.*
It's not about trust. Hank's a good kid. But you know as well as I do, he's too soft, too emotional. If he really knew the way the world worked... he wouldn't like it. It'd eat him up inside.
"How do you know that?"
"I just do. If you love him, you'll keep him in the dark for as long as you can."


That's why I did it. For him.
Or at least that's what I told myself at the time.
But if I'm being honest-- and I want to be more honest-- I did it for *me* too.
I loved it. I felt like I had purpose. I felt my life getting bigger than I could have ever imagined.
Send me on a mission! You've been training me for years! Let me put it into practice!
No. You have to be spotless. We can't risk you having a criminal record.
Why not? What makes me so special?
Then, one day, I saw it.
You were meant to be a great hero.
The vision.
Do you understand now, Janet?
I think so. Some of it.
We've been putting this together for a very long time.


"It's all been planned out."
That's all right, boys. I'll talk to them.
Come to see your handiwork up close, *eh?*
Seriously-- great work, Van Dyne. Couldn't have done it *without* you.
Janet... what's he saying? What does that--?
Hank, I can explain.
She did it for *you,* you know. To protect you.
Shut up, Fury!
Nasty scar there, by the way. Must have been *some* accident.


Janet, I duhhh-uhhh-n't understand! I duuhn't uhhh-uhhhnderstand what's haaaahaaahappening right now!
Hank...I *had* to... It was the only way. I didn't know--
Hhgggrrughhhh!
Hank, your head! You'll hurt yourself! Please just calm down!
I don't think he's taking it well, Van Dyne. He seems unstable.
It's from his old injury. He'll be fine.
This is not the picture of a man who's gonna keep a secret.
He's *fine.* It'll pass.
Hell, it's not the picture of a *man.*
None of this is what it looks like...
It looks like a *liability.* For all of us.


I can't do this anymore. *Do you hear me?*
Well, too bad. We're not done with you yet. We'll keep your Hank as our guest--we've got plenty of room in the holding cells.
Why, Janet? Why would you--?
I had a *Vision,* Hank.
I know! I was there!
No, not Tony! Something--
So you work for *him* now?
You're damn right she--
do-- uhhhh?
No, she doesn't work for him.


BLAM BLA
BLAM
BLAM BLAM BLAM BLAM BLA
BLAM
BLAM BLAM
She works with *me.*
NEXT: BEHOLD THE VISION!

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NEXT

MARVEL
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THE ULTIMATES
CAMP NOTO

ON SALE IN **JANUARY**

ON SALE THIS MONTH

MARVEL
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ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN

ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN #24

BY **JONATHAN HICKMAN,**
MARCO CHECCHETTO & **DAVID MESSINA**

MARVEL
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ULTIMATE BLACK PANTHER

ULTIMATE BLACK PANTHER #23

BY **BRYAN HILL** & **CARLOS NIETO**

MARVEL
22
ULTIMATE X-MEN

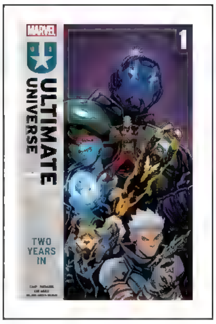
ULTIMATE X-MEN #22

BY **PEACH MOMOKO**

MARVEL
12
ULTIMATE WOLVERINE

ULTIMATE WOLVERINE #12

BY **CHRIS CONDON** &
ALESSANDRO CAPPUCCIO


MARVEL
1
ULTIMATE UNIVERSE
TWO YEARS IN

ULTIMATE UNIVERSE: TWO YEARS IN #1

BY **DENIZ CAMP,**
ALEX PAKNADEL & **MORE**

MARVEL
1
ULTIMATE ENDGAME

ULTIMATE ENDGAME #1

BY **DENIZ CAMP,**
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12

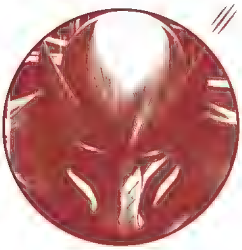
A diabolical genius known as **THE MAKER** used time travel to create his ideal Earth by systematically preventing anyone from ever becoming a super hero and by establishing a secret council of super villains, **THE MAKER'S COUNCIL**, that rules the world from the shadows.

Three of those councilmembers–**COLOSSUS**, **MAGIK** and **OMEGA RED**–run the **EURASIAN REPUBLIC**, one of two places in the world for all known mutant activity. Through their government's top secret division "**DIRECTORATE X**," headed by **DR. ALONYA PROSTOVICH** and designed to exploit the unique genetic powers exhibited in mutantkind, they turned the mutant known as **LOGAN** into their most lethal weapon, the brainwashed **WINTER SOLDIER**.

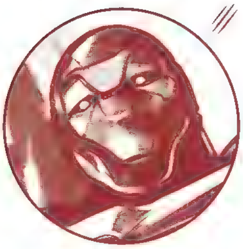
But a pro-mutant resistance group known as **THE OPPOSITION** freed Logan's mind. Together, they fought violently against their oppressors, and for a time...**WOLVERINE** had found peace. But Dr. Prostovich retaliated with the **CEREBOMB**, a special weapon built from a mutant's brain. The explosion wiped out the Opposition—all except for Wolverine and **SENTINEL ONE**. And now he's on the warpath for revenge...

ULTIMATE WOLVERINE

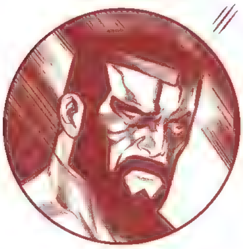
CAST:



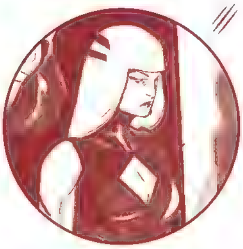
WOLVERINE/
THE WINTER SOLDIER
LOGAN



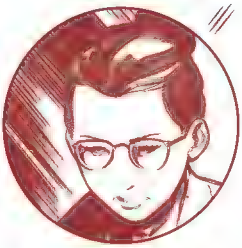
SENTINEL ONE
DAVID HALLER



COLOSSUS
PIOTR RASPUTIN

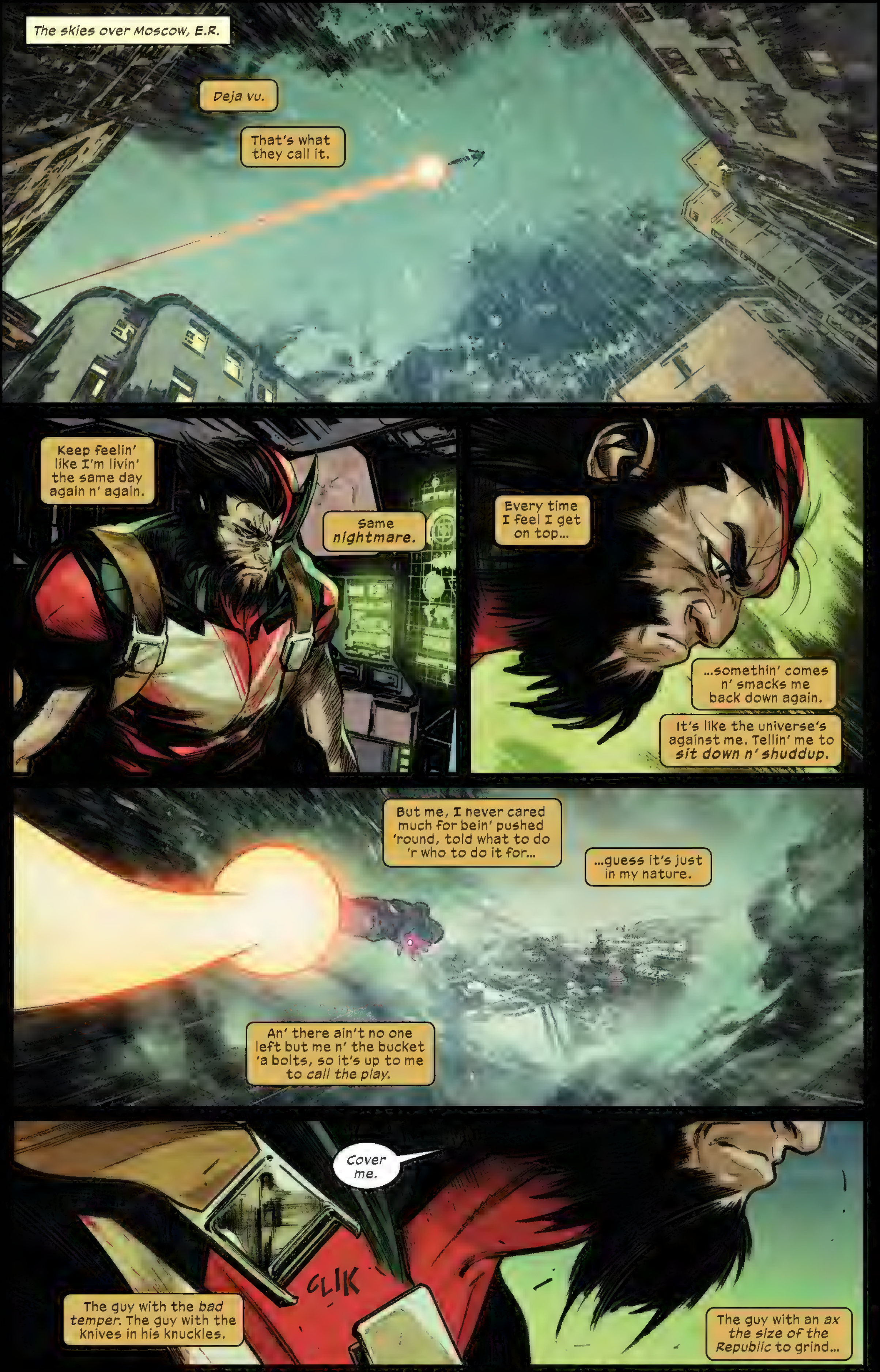


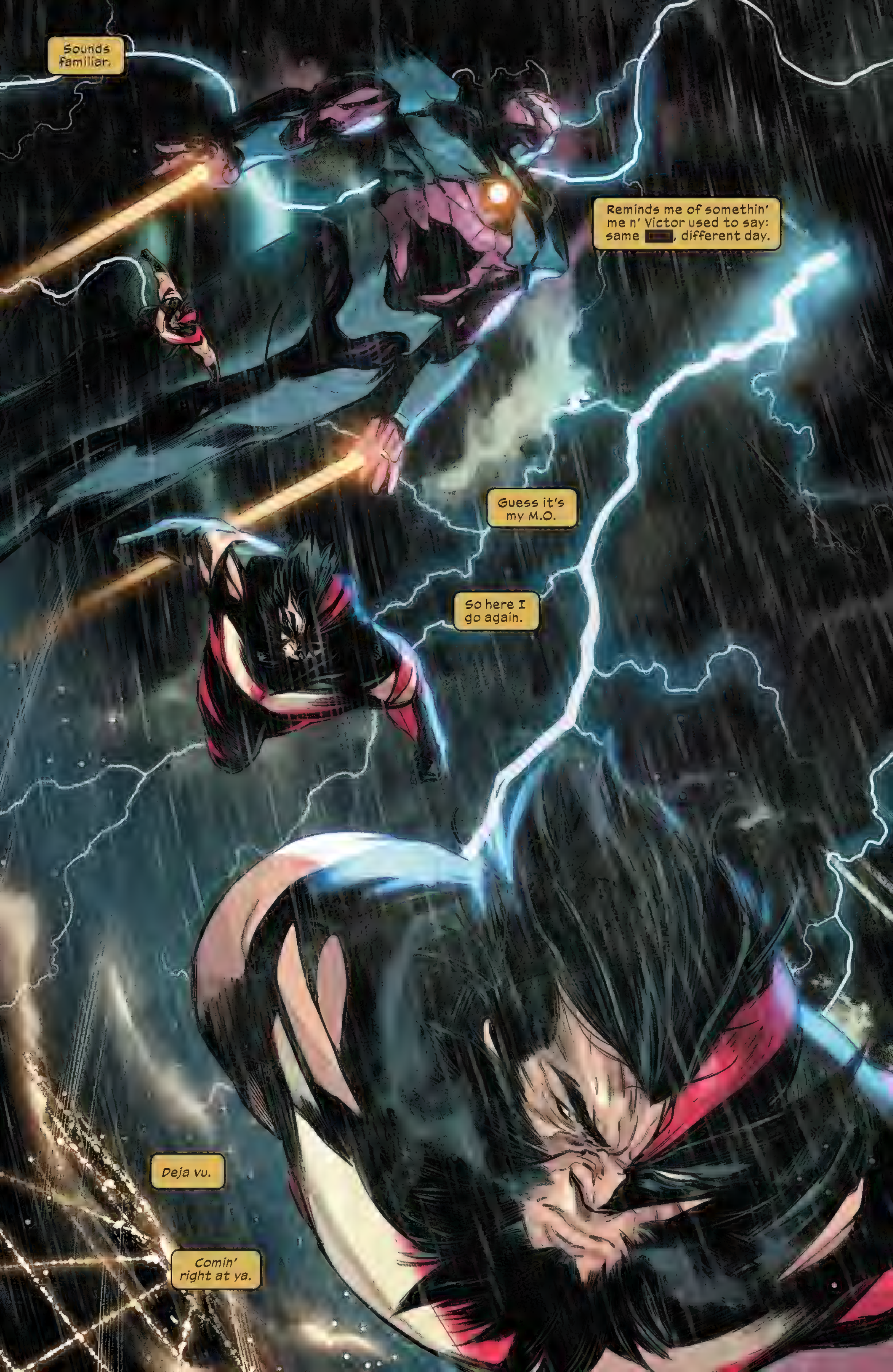
MAGIK
ILLYANA RASPUTIN

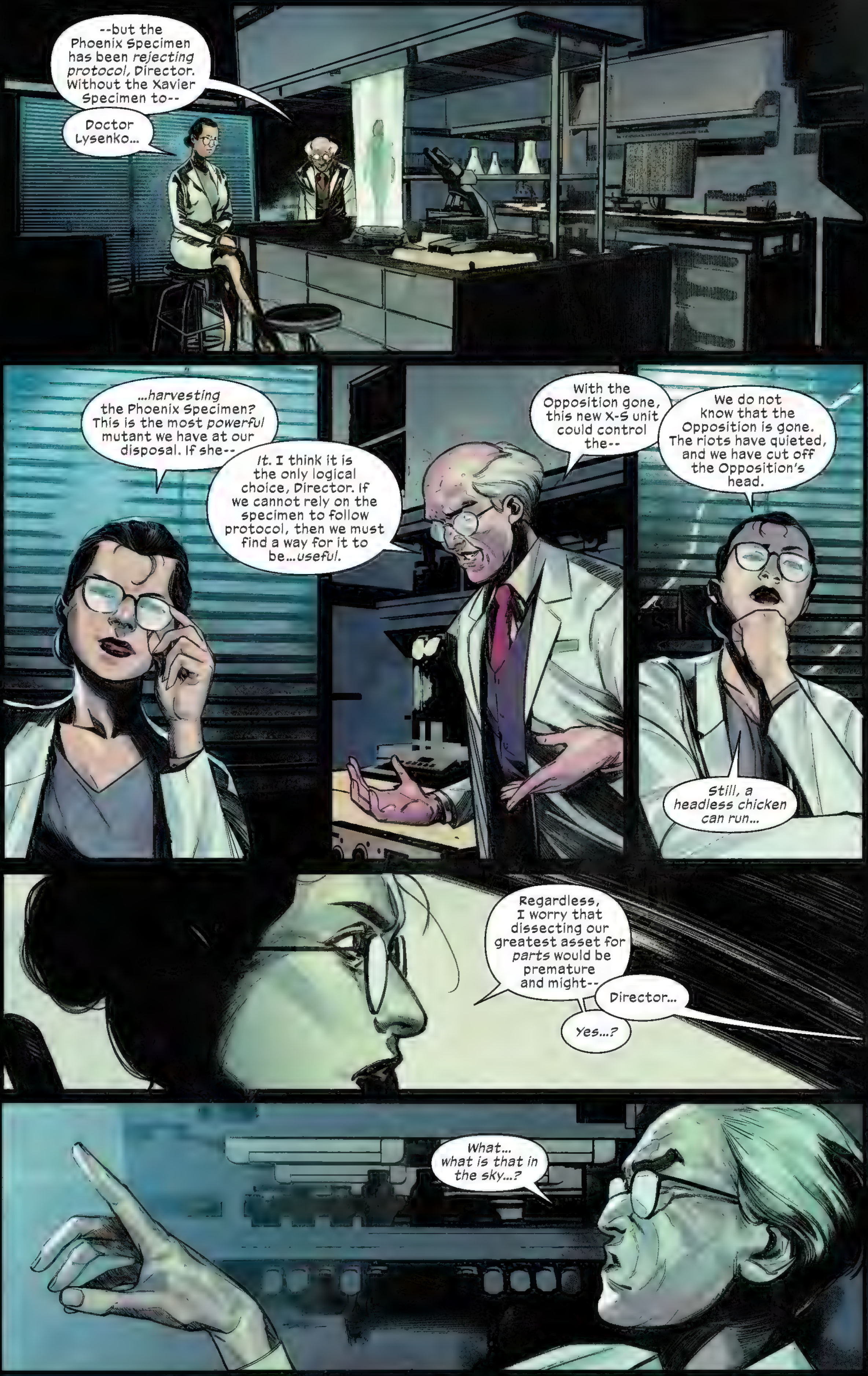


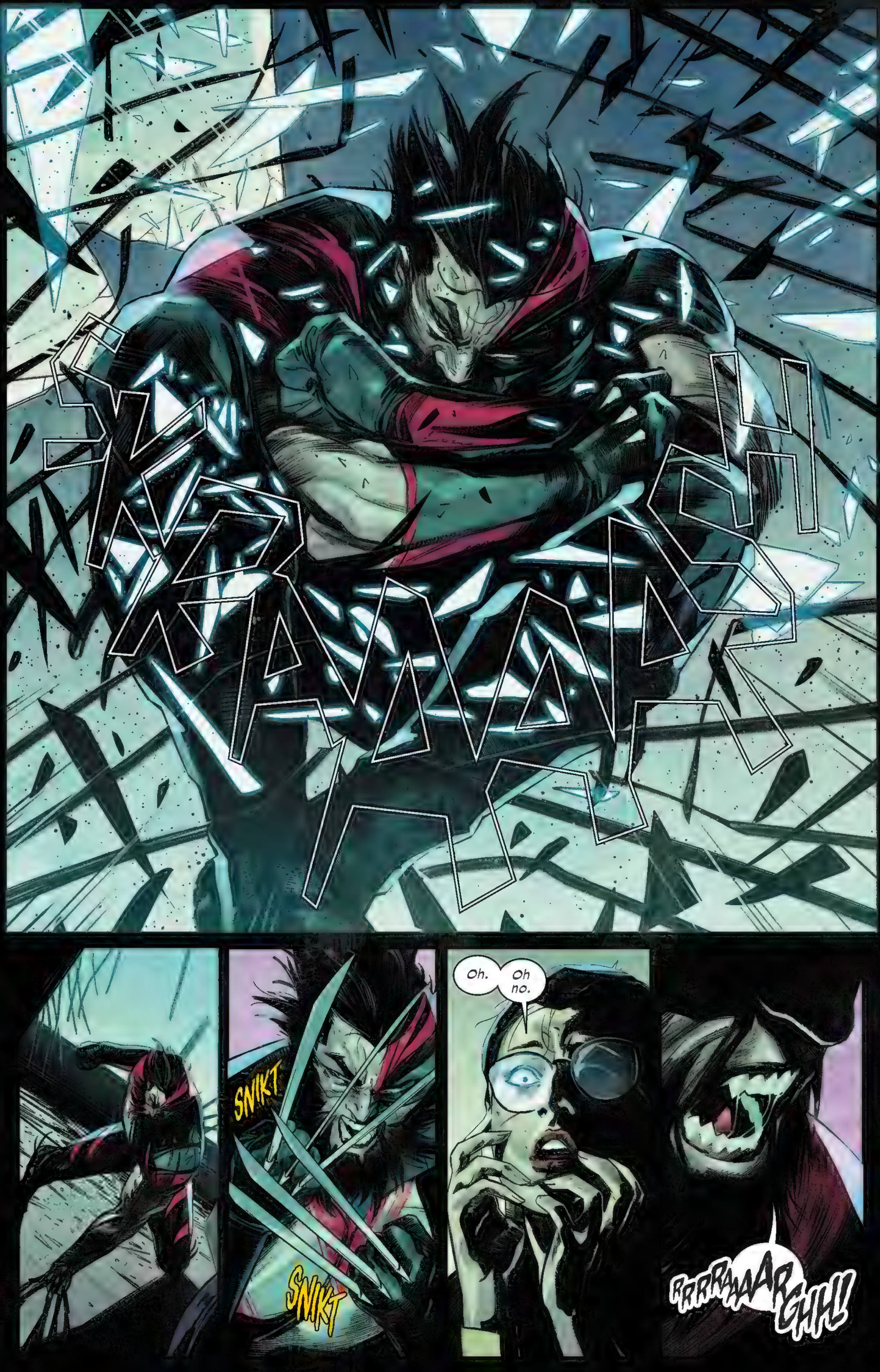
DR. ALONYA
PROSTOVICH
DIRECTORATE X
RESEARCH HEAD

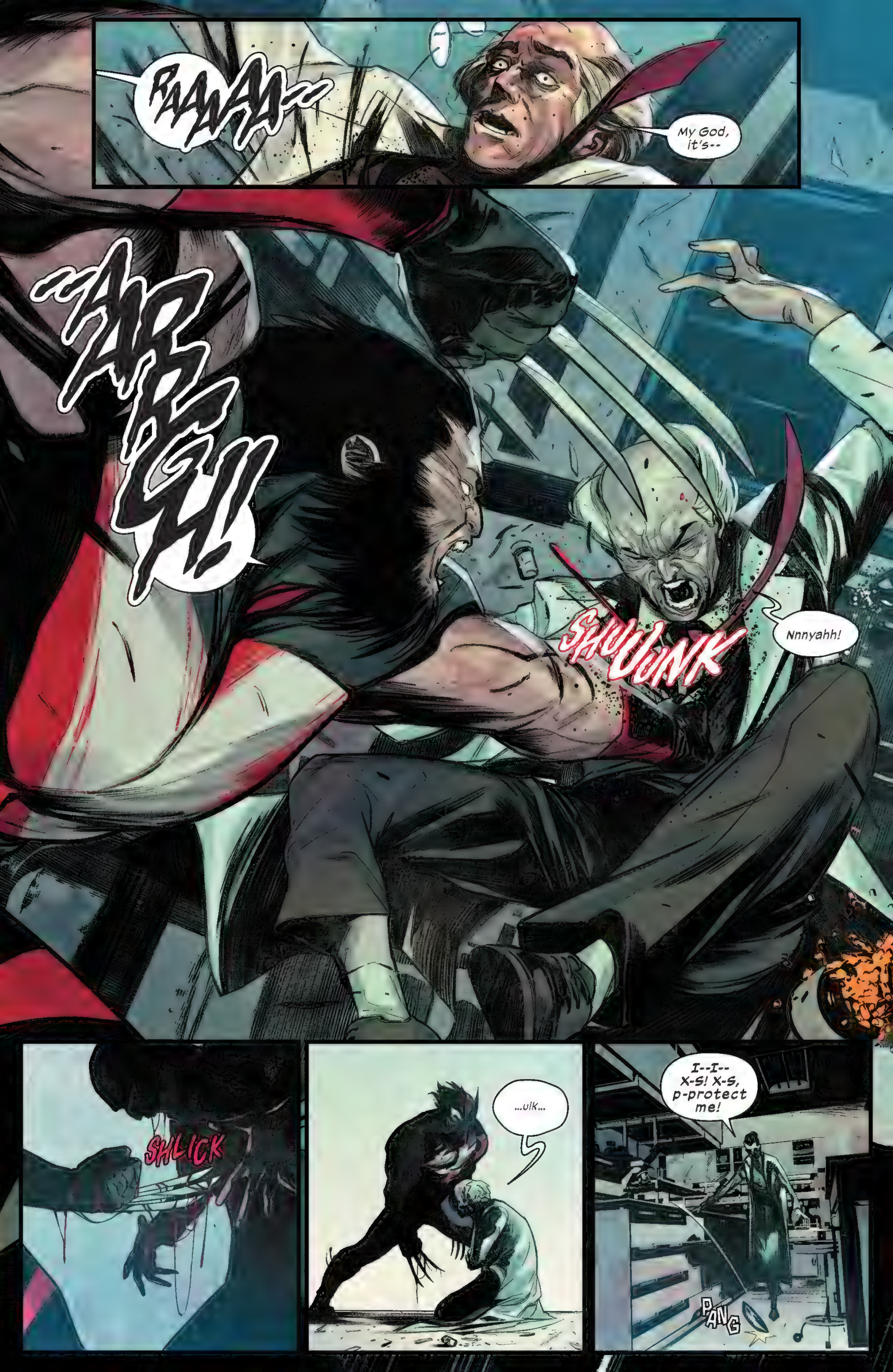
DECEMBER 2025

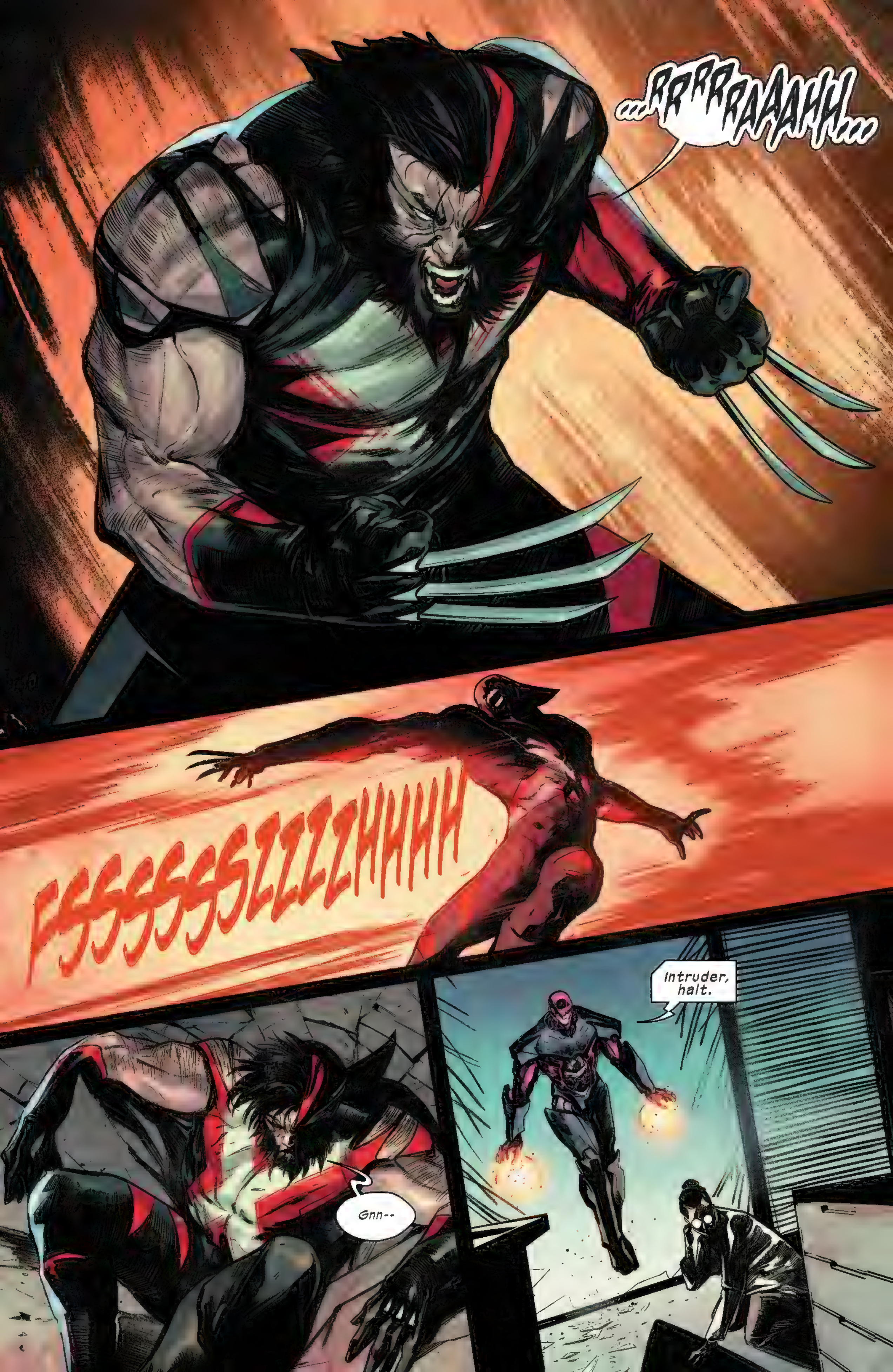

The skies over Moscow, E.R.
Deja vu.
That's what they call it.
Keep feelin' like I'm livin' the same day again n' again.
Same *nightmare.*
Every time I feel I get on top...
...somethin' comes n' smacks me back down again.
It's like the universe's against me. Tellin' me to *sit down n' shuddup.*
But me, I never cared much for bein' pushed 'round, told what to do 'r who to do it for...
...guess it's just in my nature.
An' there ain't no one left but me n' the bucket 'a bolts, so it's up to me to *call the play.*
Cover me.
CLIK
The guy with the *bad temper.* The guy with the knives in his knuckles.
The guy with an *ax the size of the Republic* to grind...

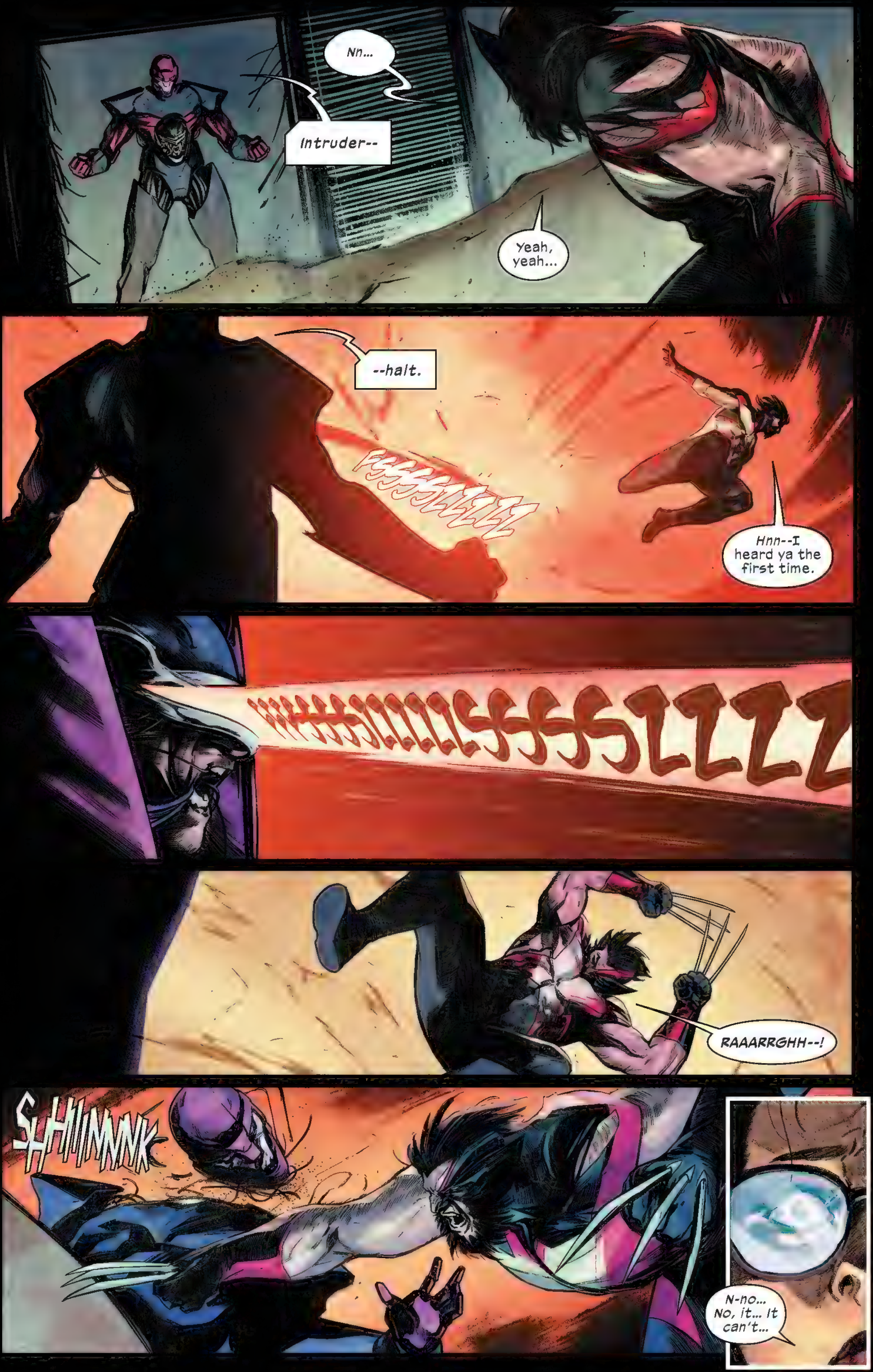

Sounds familiar.
Reminds me of somethin' me n' Victor used to say: same [redacted], different day.
Guess it's my M.O.
So here I go again.
Deja vu.
Comin' right at ya.

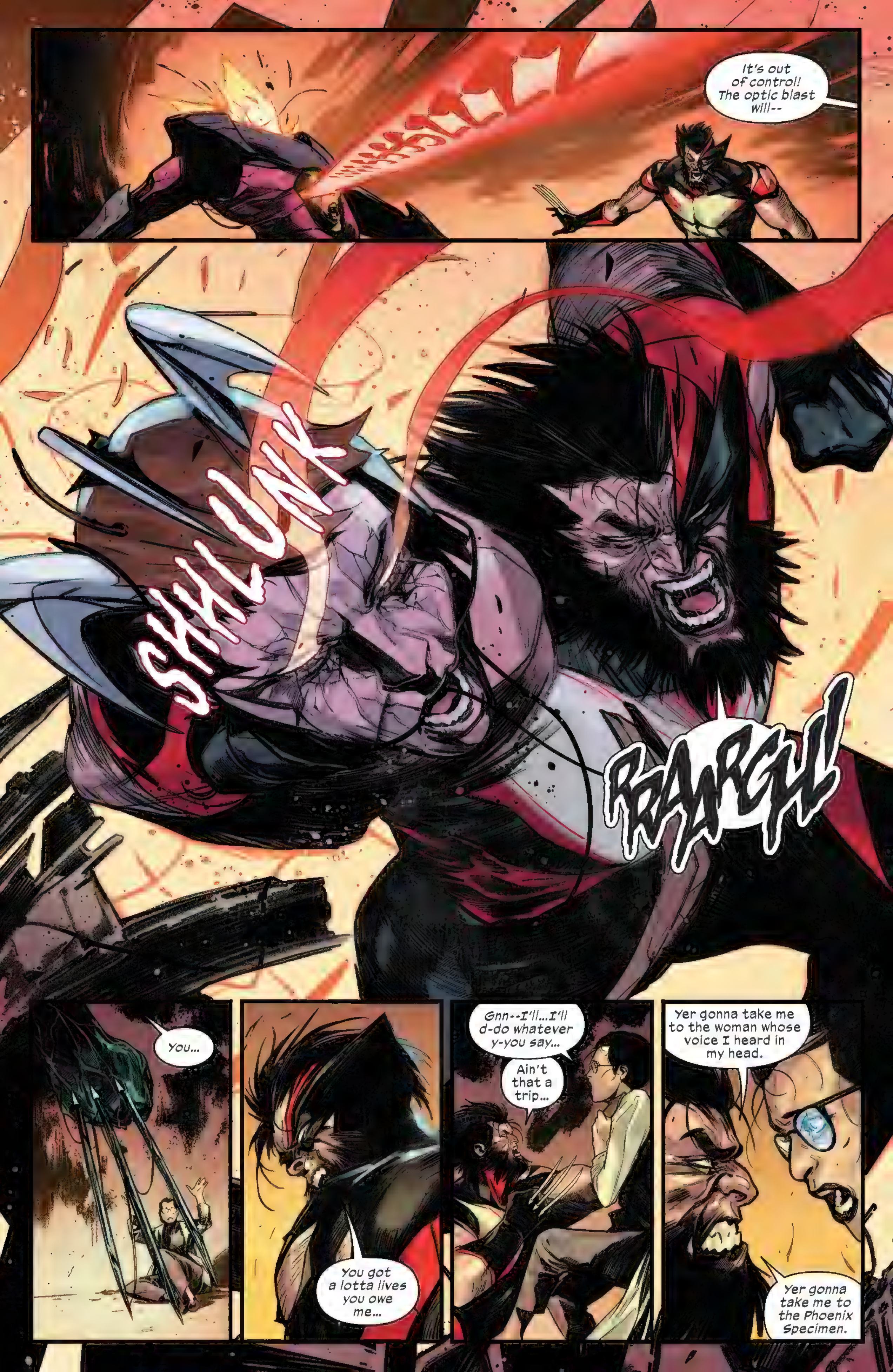

--but the Phoenix Specimen has been *rejecting protocol*, Director. Without the Xavier Specimen to--
Doctor Lysenko...
...*harvesting* the Phoenix Specimen? This is the most *powerful* mutant we have at our disposal. If she--
It. I think it is the only logical choice, Director. If we cannot rely on the specimen to follow protocol, then we must find a way for it to be...*useful*.
With the Opposition gone, this new X-S unit could control the--
We do not know that the Opposition is gone. The riots have quieted, and we have cut off the Opposition's head.
Still, a headless chicken can run...
Regardless, I worry that dissecting our greatest asset for *parts* would be premature and might--
Director...
Yes...?
What... what is that in the sky...?

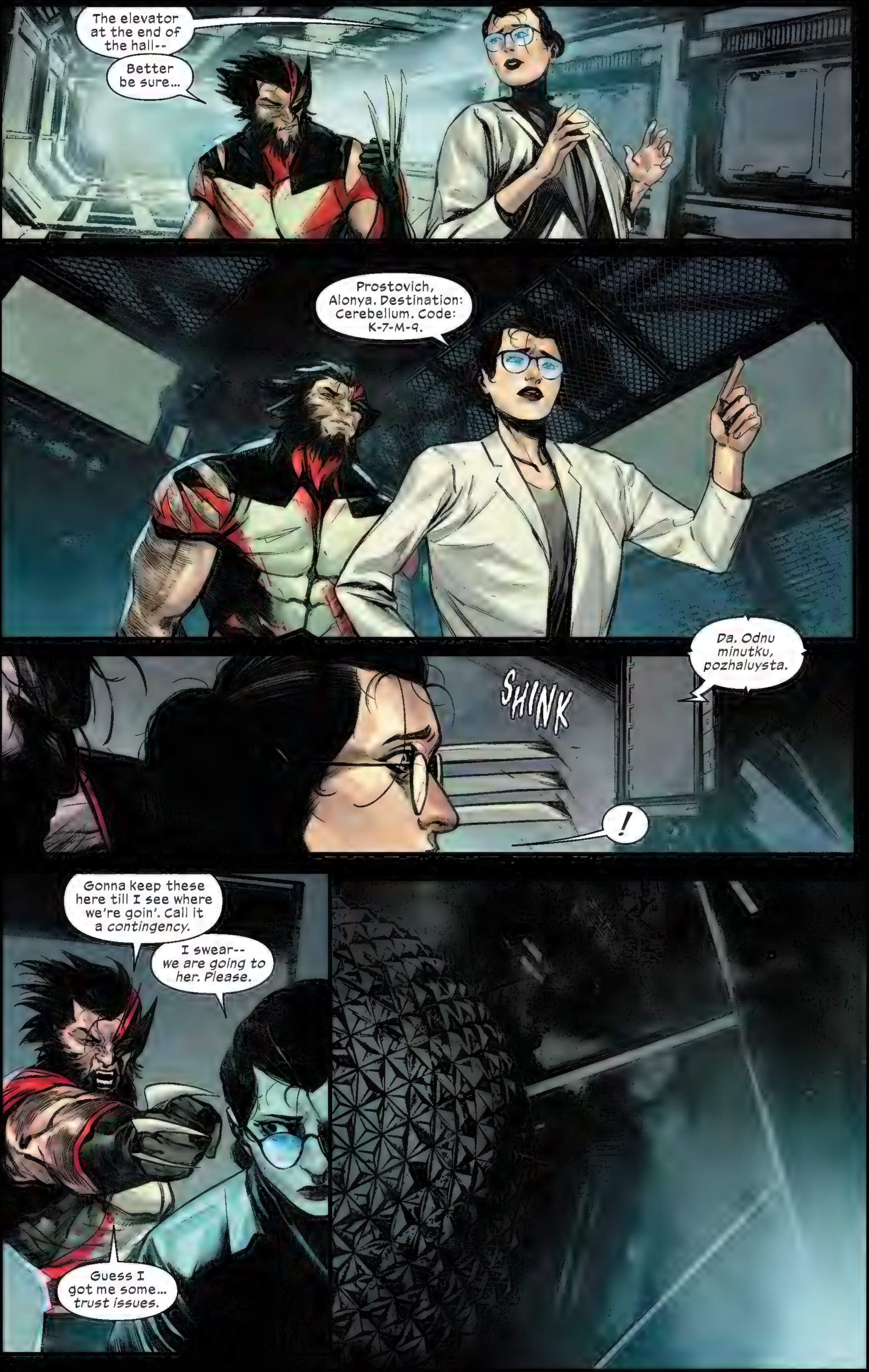

CKRAAAASH
SNIKT
SNIKT
Oh.
Oh no.
RRRRAAAARGHH!

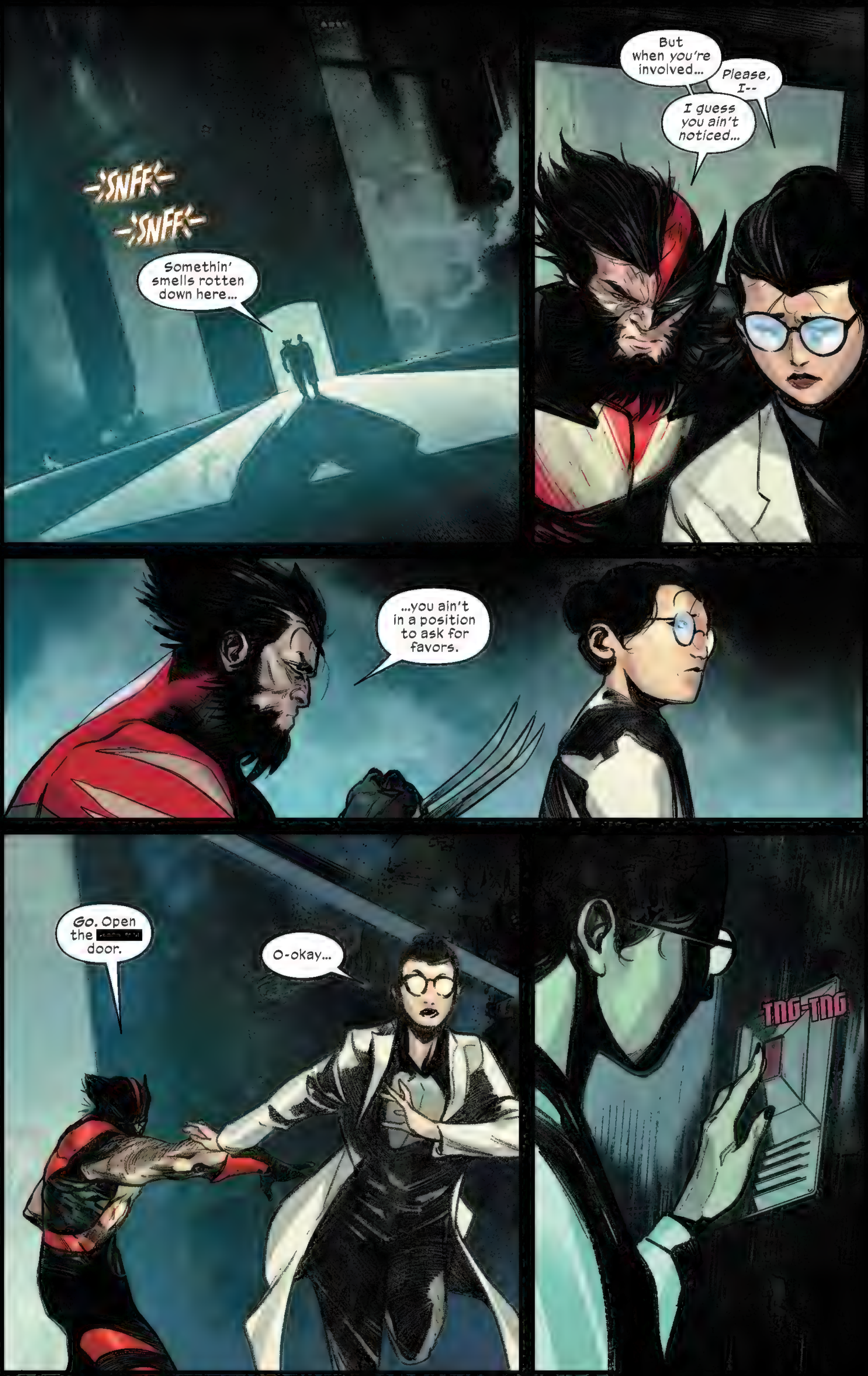

RAAAAA--
My God, it's--
--ARGH!
SHUUNK
Nnnyahh!
SHLICK
...ulk...
I--I-- X-S! X-S, p-protect me!
PANG

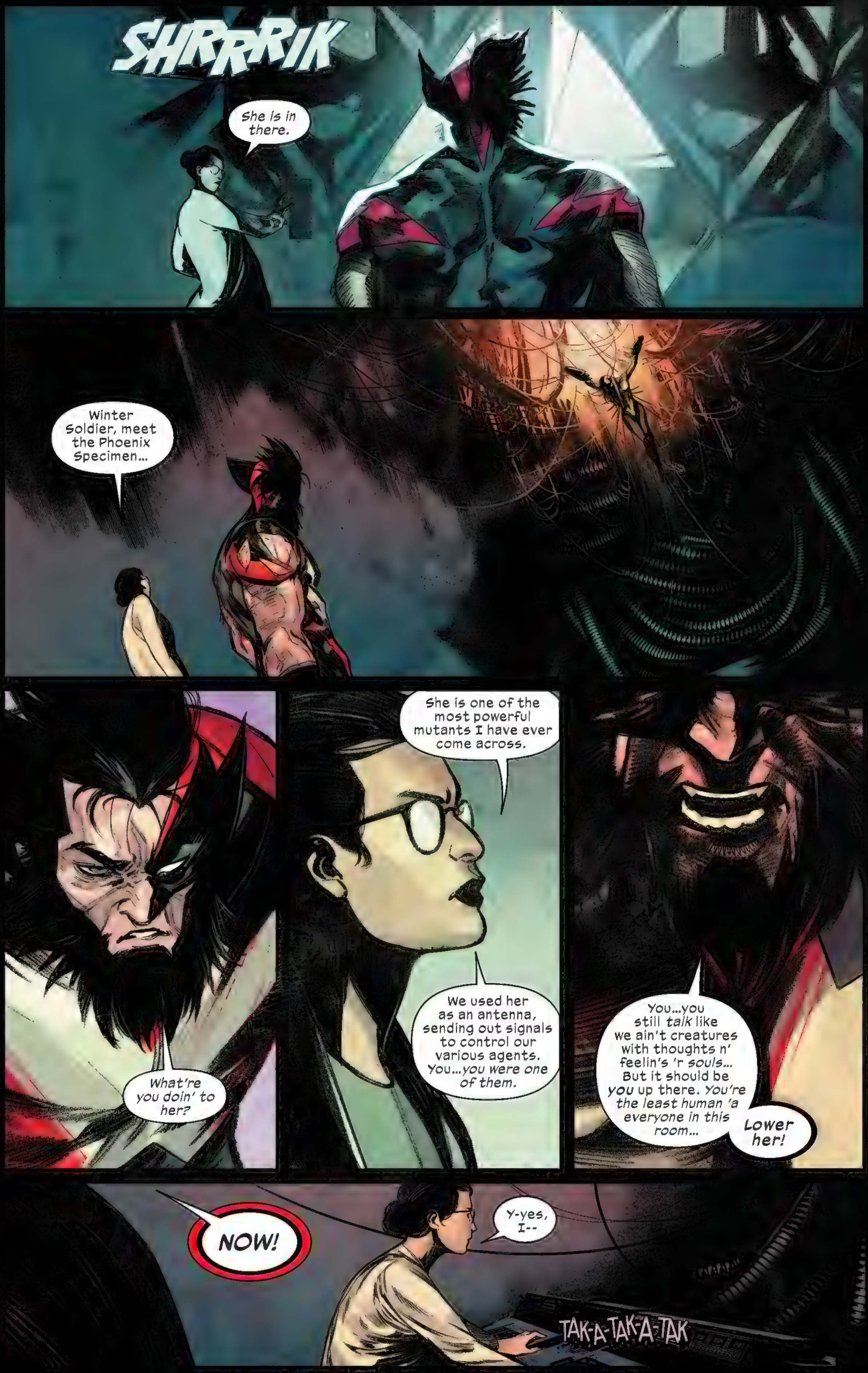

...RRRRRAAAHH...
FSSSSSZZZZHHHH
Intruder, halt.
Gnn--

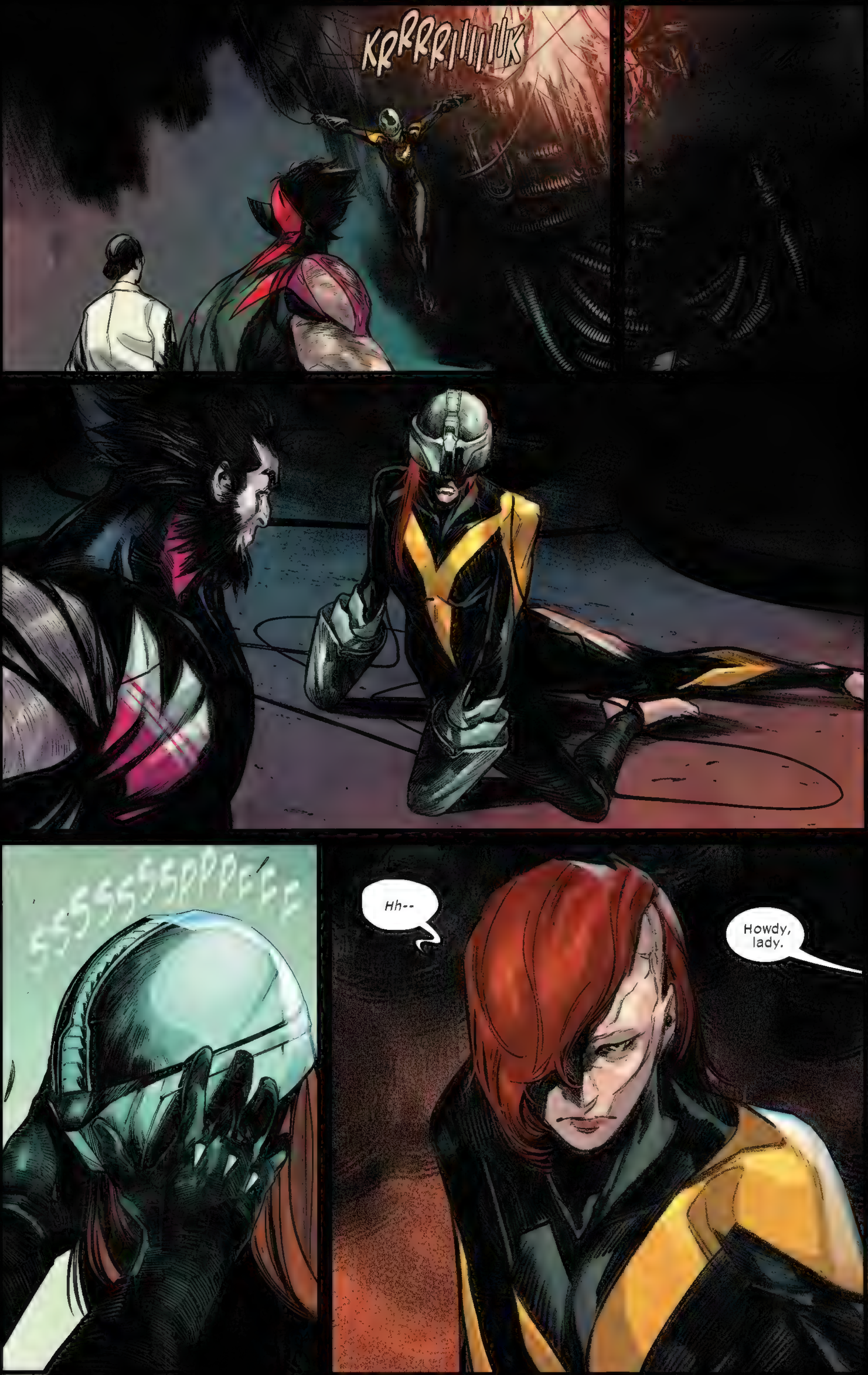

Nn...
Intruder--
Yeah, yeah...
--halt.
FSSSSZZZZZ
Hnn--I heard ya the first time.
FSSSSSSSSSSSZZZZ
RAAARRGHH--!
SHHINNNK
N-no... No, it... It can't...

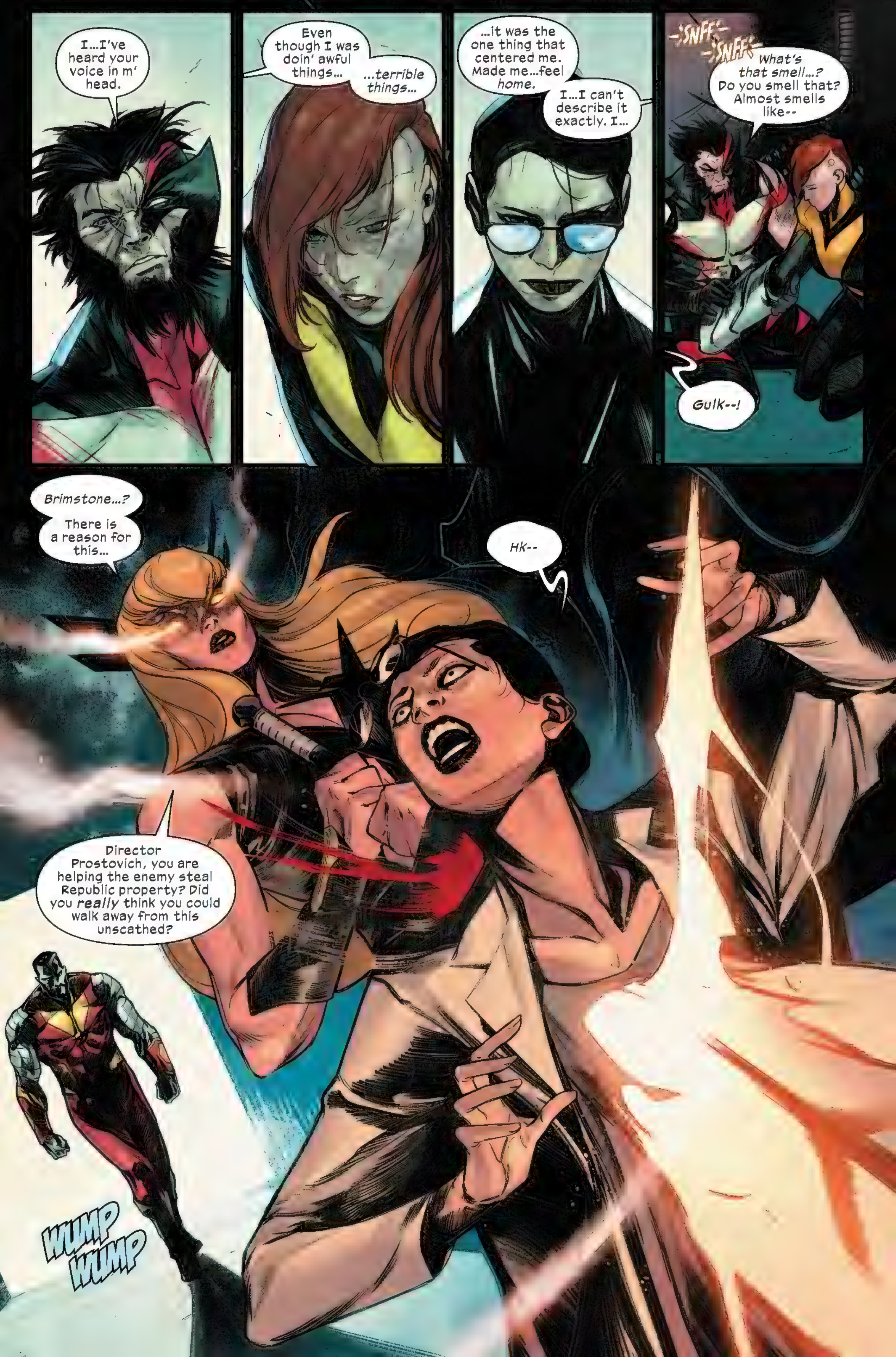

It's out of control! The optic blast will--
SHHLUNK
RRAARGH!
You...
You got a lotta lives you owe me...
Gnn--I'll...I'll d-do whatever y-you say...
Ain't that a trip...
Yer gonna take me to the woman whose voice I heard in my head.
Yer gonna take me to the Phoenix Specimen.

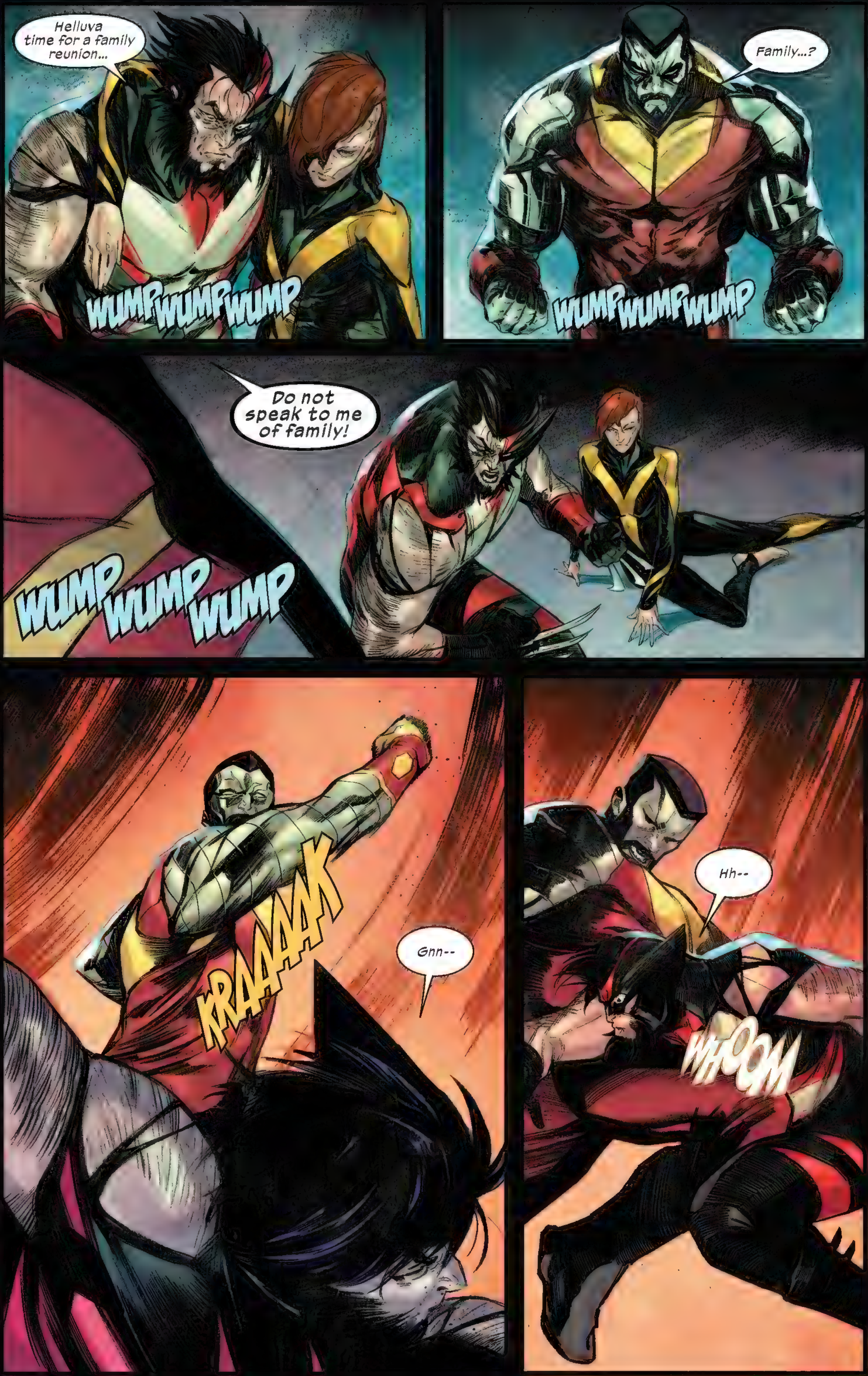

The elevator at the end of the hall--
Better be sure...
Prostovich, Alonya. Destination: Cerebellum. Code: K-7-M-9.
SHINK
Da. Odnu minutku, pozhaluysta.
!
Gonna keep these here till I see where we're goin'. Call it a contingency.
I swear-- we are going to her. Please.
Guess I got me some... trust issues.

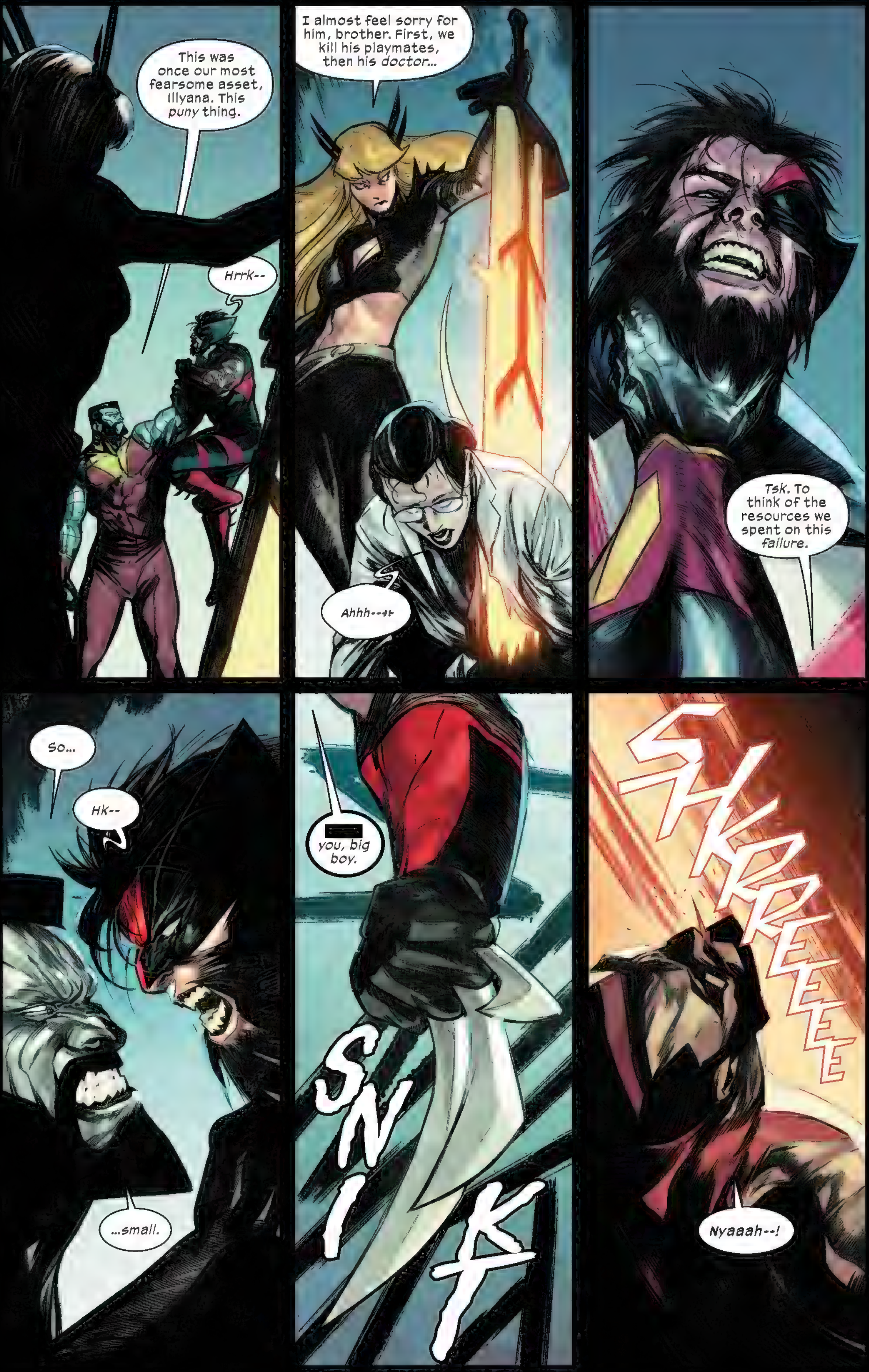

-SNFF-
-SNFF-
Somethin' smells rotten down here...
But when *you're* involved...
Please, I--
I guess you ain't noticed...
...you ain't in a position to ask for favors.
Go. Open the [redacted] door.
O-okay...
TNG-TNG

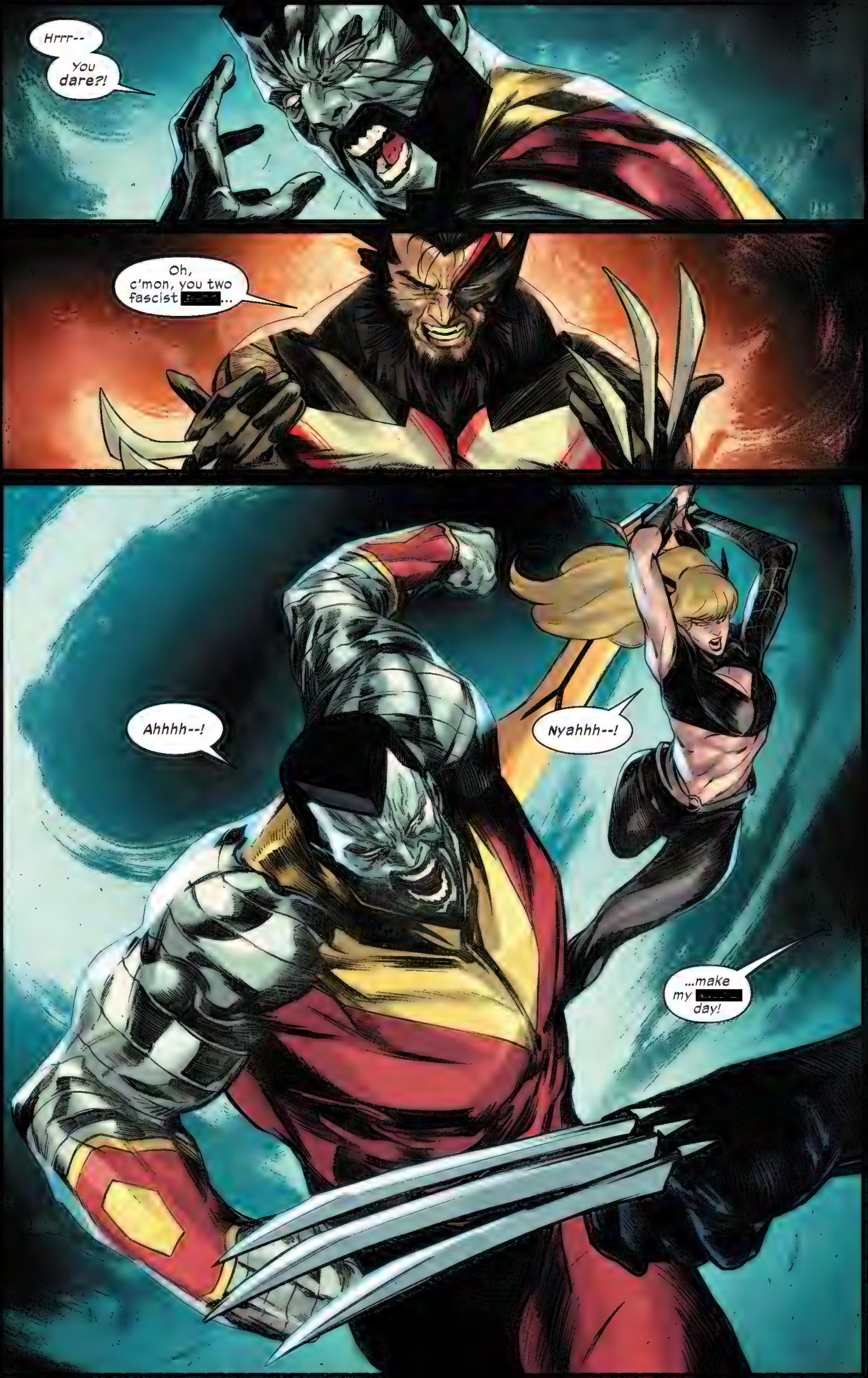

SHRRRIK
She is in there.
Winter Soldier, meet the Phoenix Specimen...
What're you doin' to her?
She is one of the most powerful mutants I have ever come across.
We used her as an antenna, sending out signals to control our various agents. You...*you were one of them.*
You...you still *talk* like we ain't creatures with thoughts n' feelin's 'r *souls...* But it should be *you* up there. *You're the least human 'a everyone in this room...*
Lower her!
NOW!
Y-yes, I--
TAK-A-TAK-A-TAK

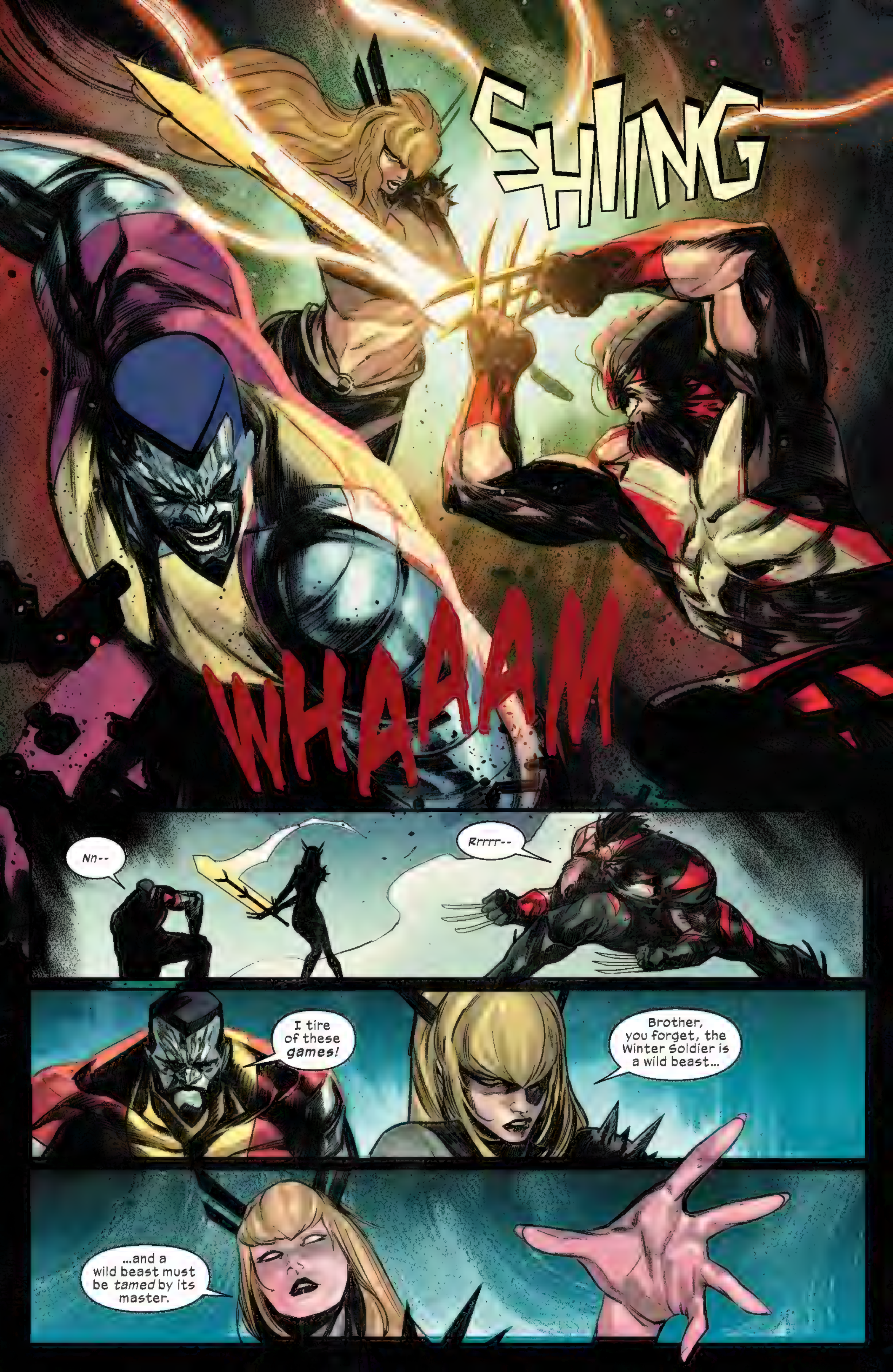

KRRRRIIIIIUK
SSSSSSSPPPSSS
Hh--
Howdy, lady.

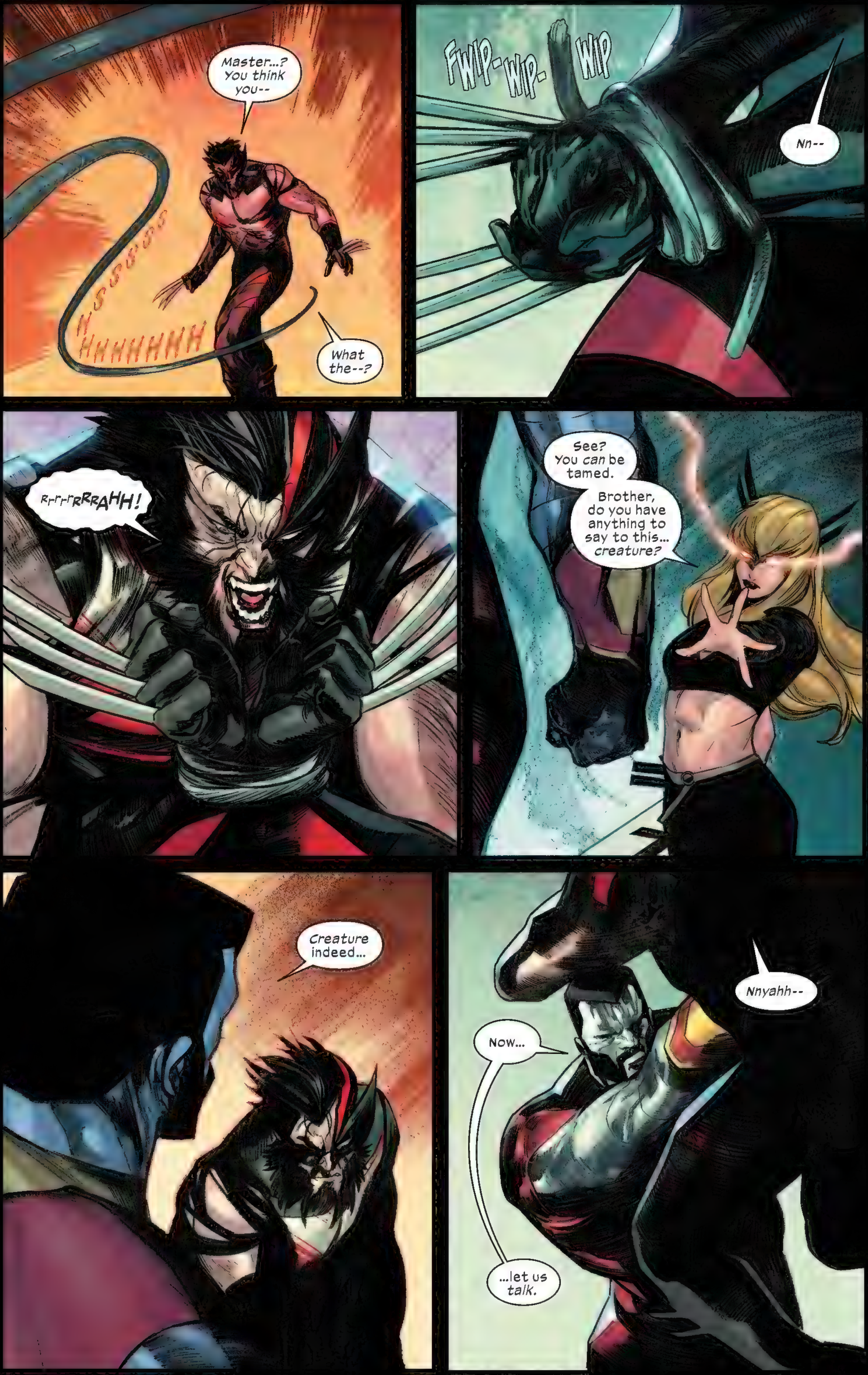

I...I've heard your voice in m' head.
Even though I was doin' awful things...
...terrible things...
...it was the one thing that centered me. Made me...feel *home.*
I...I can't describe it exactly. I...
SNFF
SNFF
What's that smell...? Do you smell that? Almost smells like--
Gulk--!
Brimstone...?
There is a reason for this...
Hk--
Director Prostovich, you are helping the enemy steal Republic property? Did you ***really*** think you could walk away from this unscathed?
WUMP
WUMP

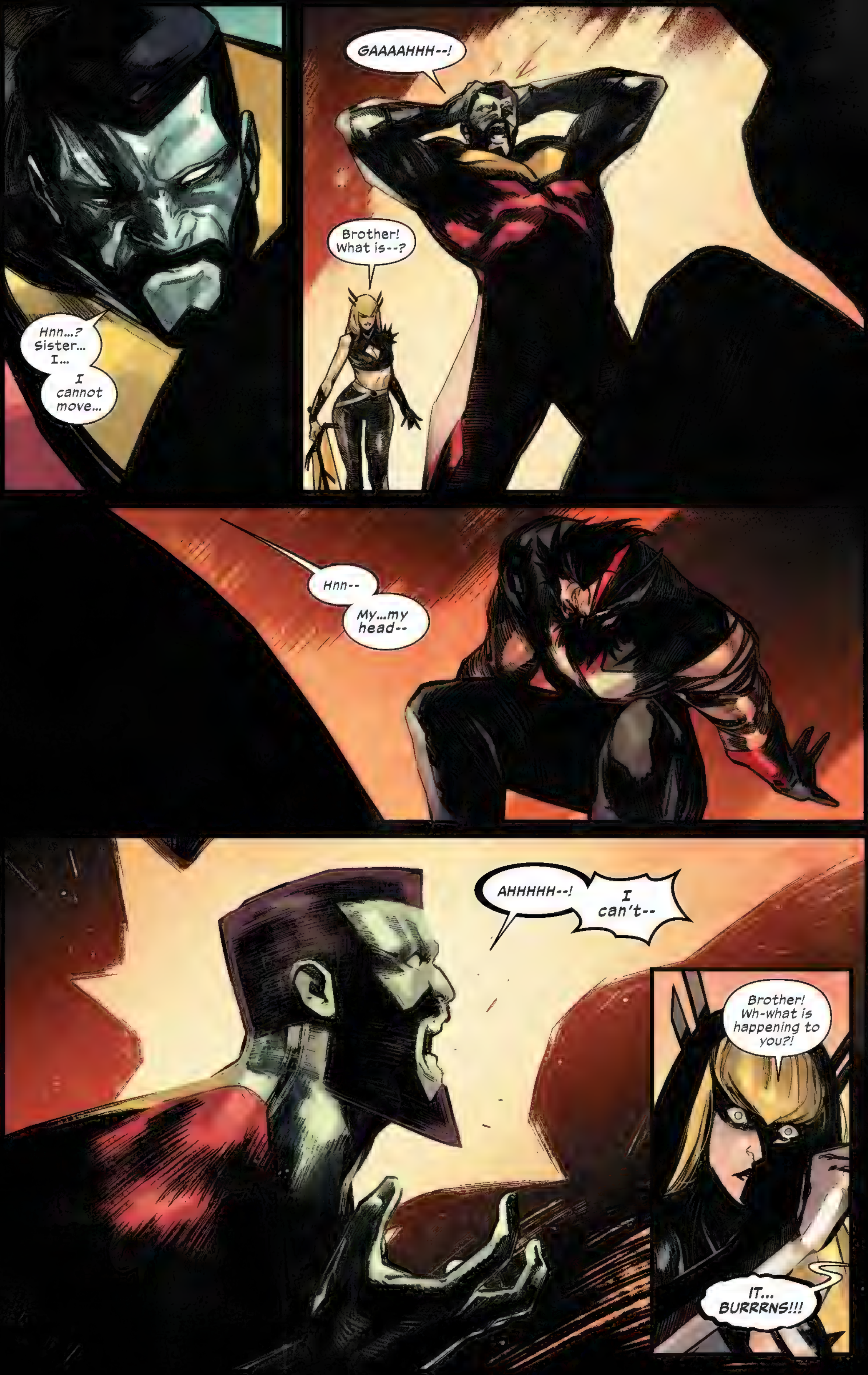

Helluva time for a family reunion...
WUMPWUMPWUMP
Family...?
WUMPWUMPWUMP
Do not speak to me of family!
WUMP WUMP WUMP
KRAAAAK
Gnn--
Hh--
WHOOM

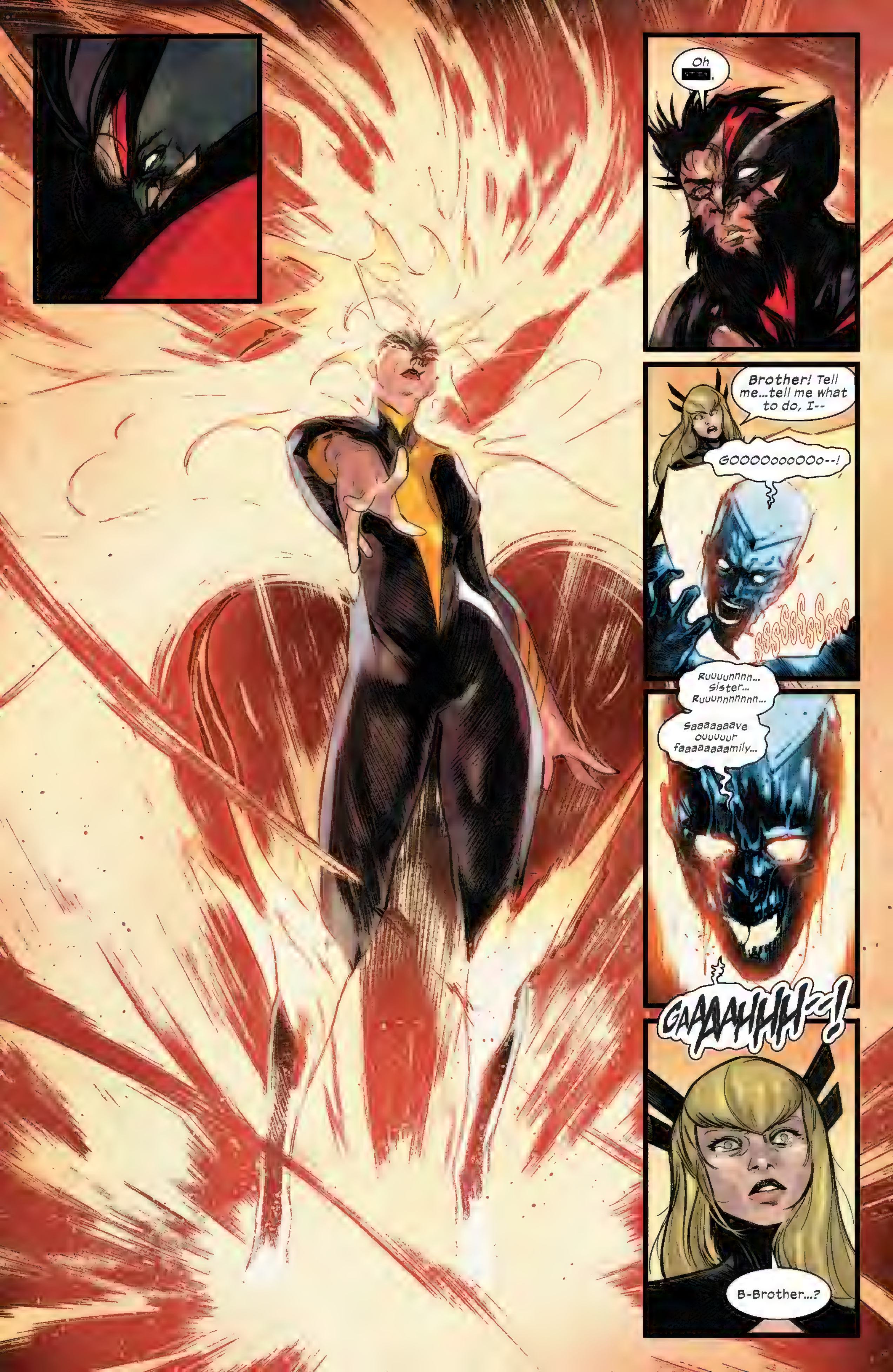

This was once our most fearsome asset, Illyana. This *puny* thing.
Hrrk--
I almost feel sorry for him, brother. First, we kill his playmates, then his *doctor*...
Ahhh--
Tsk. To think of the resources we spent on this *failure.*
So...
Hk--
...small.
[redacted] *you, big boy.*
SNIKT
SHKREEEEE
Nyaaah--!

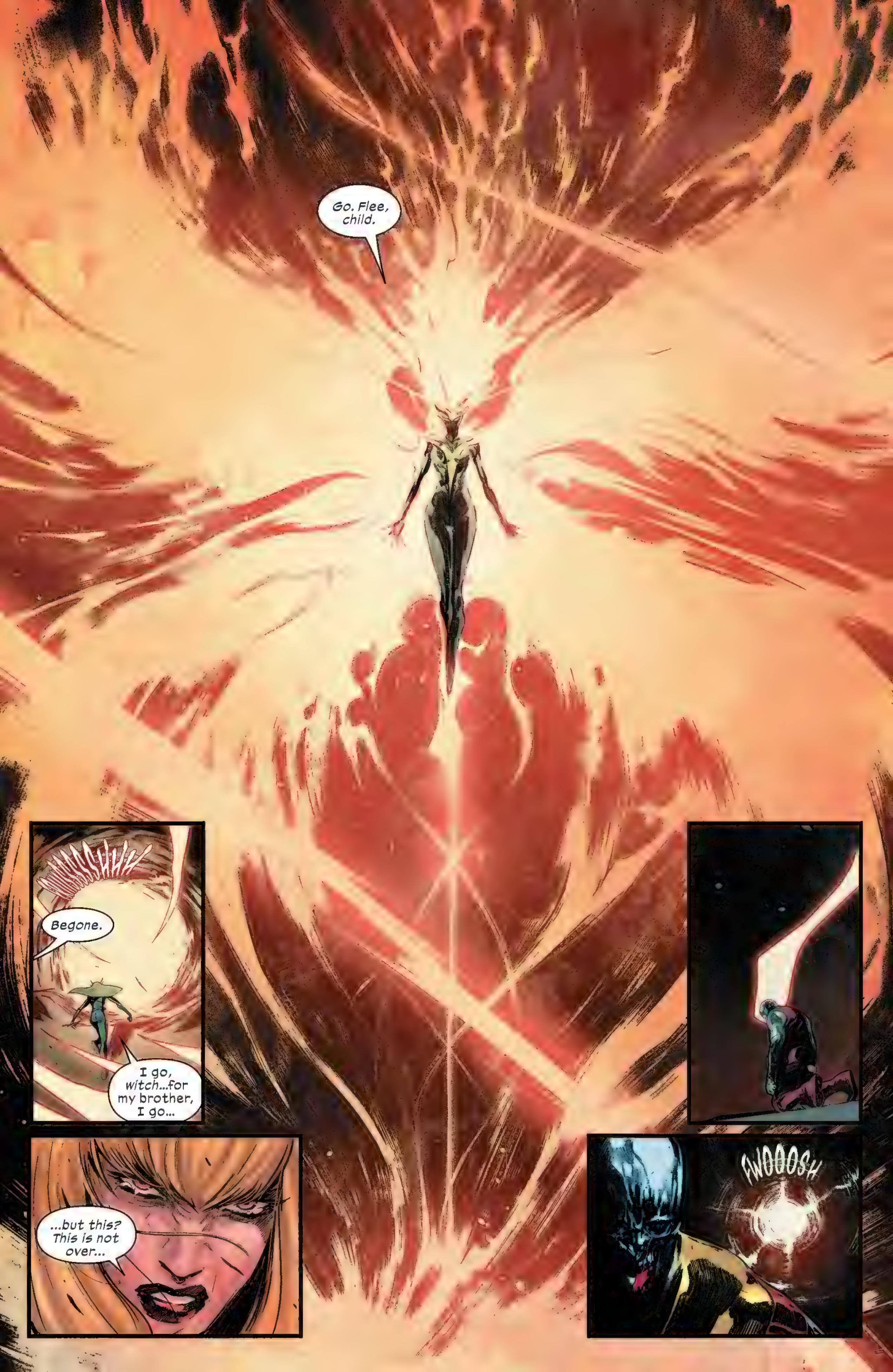

Hrrr--
You dare?!
Oh, c'mon, you two fascist [redacted]...
Ahhhh--!
Nyahhh--!
...make my [redacted] day!

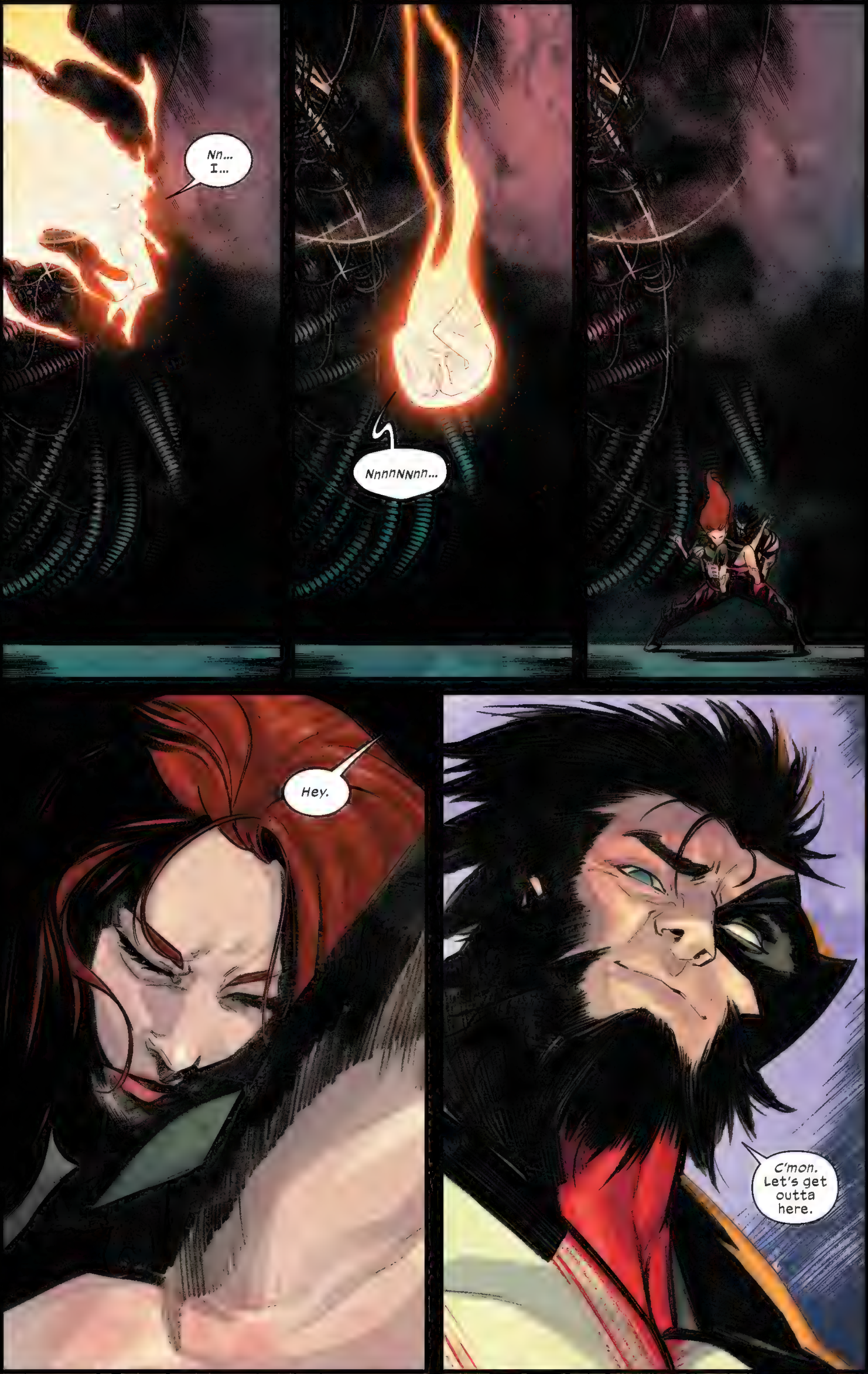

SHING
WHAAAM
Nn--
Rrrrr--
I tire of these *games!*
Brother, you forget, the Winter Soldier is a wild beast...
...and a wild beast must be *tamed* by its master.

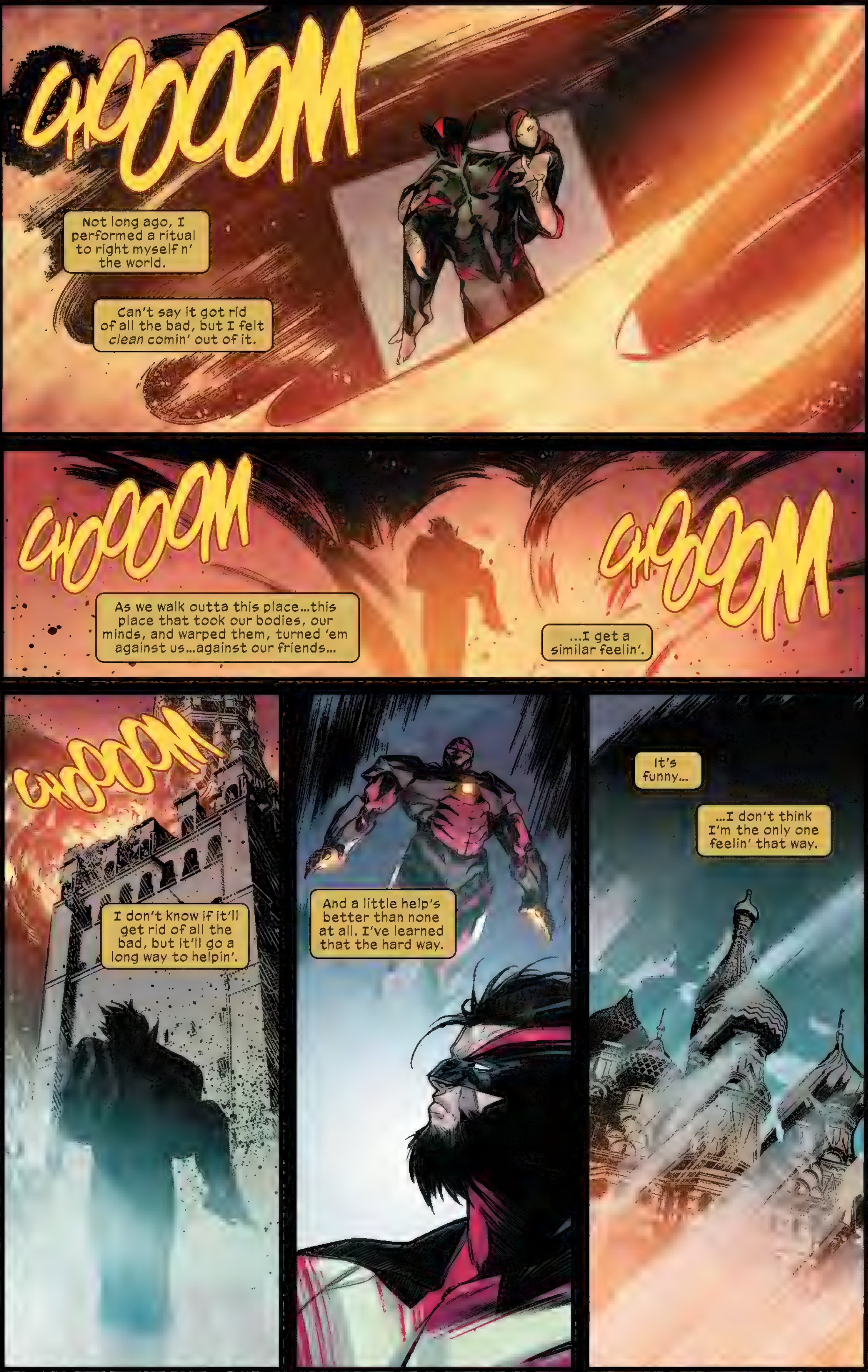

Master...? You think you--
SSSSSSSHHHHHHHH
What the--?
FWIP-WIP-WIP
Nn--
RrrrrRRRAHH!
See? You *can* be tamed.
Brother, do you have anything to say to this... *creature?*
Creature indeed...
Nnyahh--
Now...
...let us *talk.*

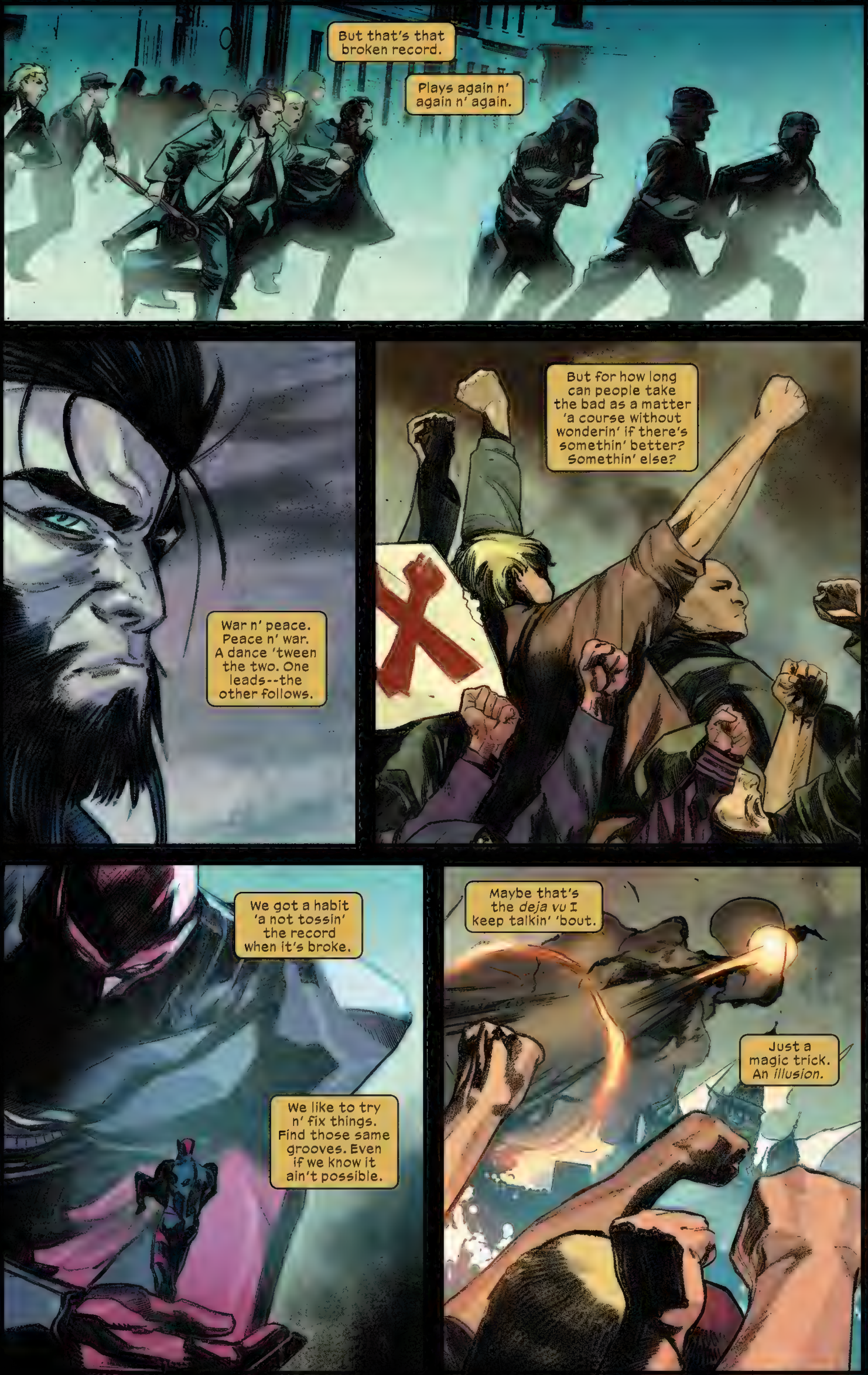

Hnn...? Sister... I...
I cannot move...
GAAAAHHH--!
Brother! What is--?
Hnn--
My...my head--
AHHHHH--!
I can't--
Brother! Wh-what is happening to you?!
IT... BURRRNS!!!

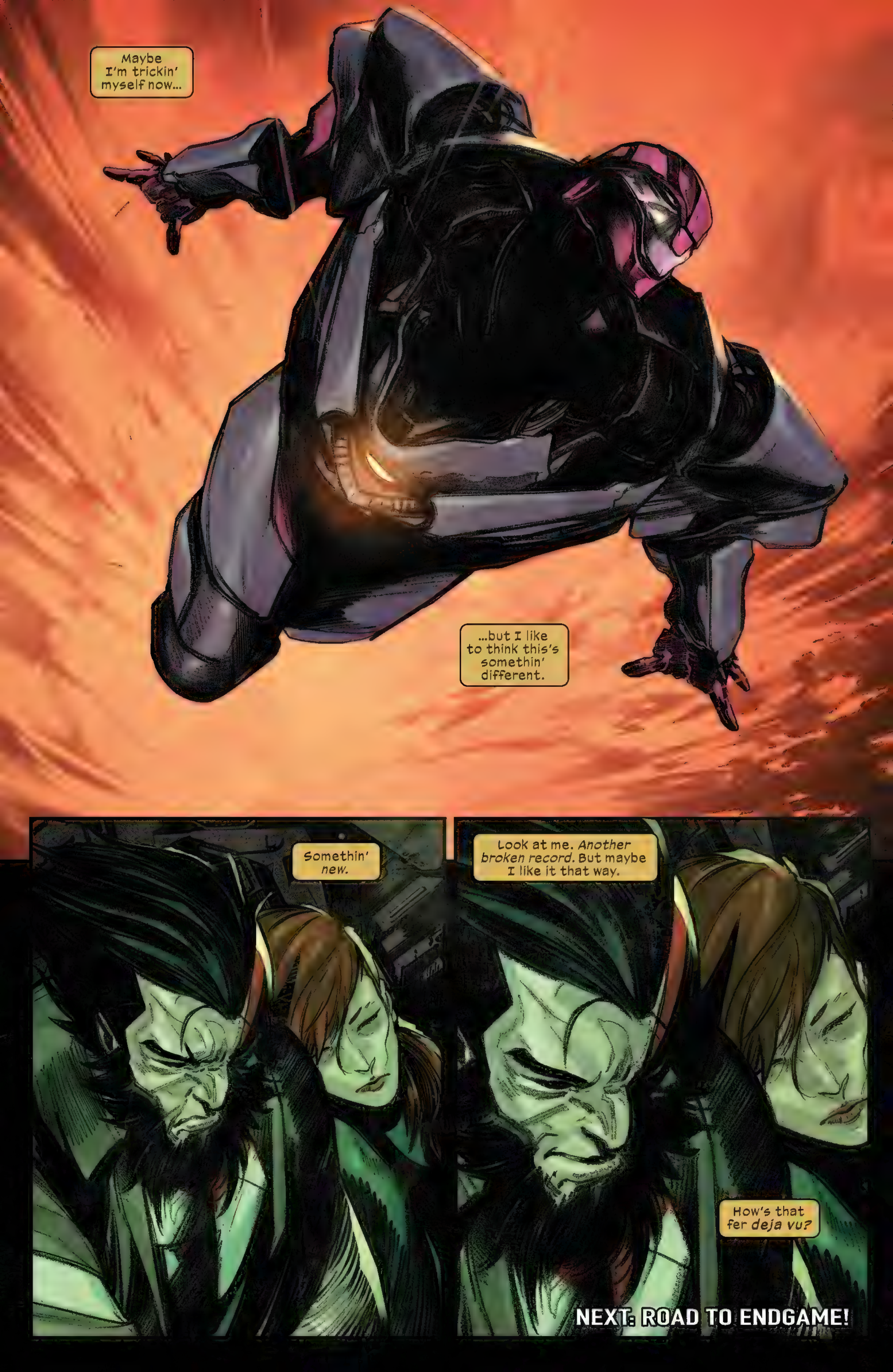

Oh [redacted].
Brother! Tell me...tell me what to do, I--
GOOOOooooOOo--!
SSSSSSSSSS
Ruuuunnnn... Sister... Ruuunnnnnnnn...
Saaaaaaave ouuuuur faaaaaaaamily...
GAAAAHHH--!
B-Brother...?


Go. Flee, child.
OOSSHHH
Begone.
I go, witch...for my brother, I go...
...but this? This is not over...
FWOOOSH


Nn... I...
NnnnNnnn...
Hey.
C'mon. Let's get outta here.


CHOOOOM
Not long ago, I performed a ritual to right myself n' the world.
Can't say it got rid of all the bad, but I felt *clean* comin' out of it.
CHOOOOM
As we walk outta this place...this place that took our bodies, our minds, and warped them, turned 'em against us...against our friends...
CHOOOM
...I get a similar feelin'.
CHOOOOM
I don't know if it'll get rid of all the bad, but it'll go a long way to helpin'.
And a little help's better than none at all. I've learned that the hard way.
It's funny...
...I don't think I'm the only one feelin' that way.


But that's that broken record.
Plays again n' again n' again.
War n' peace. Peace n' war. A dance 'tween the two. One leads--the other follows.
But for how long can people take the bad as a matter 'a course without wonderin' if there's somethin' better? Somethin' else?
We got a habit 'a not tossin' the record when it's broke.
We like to try n' fix things. Find those same grooves. Even if we know it ain't possible.
Maybe that's the *deja vu* I keep talkin' 'bout.
Just a magic trick. An *illusion.*


Maybe I'm trickin' myself now...
...but I like to think this's somethin' different.
Somethin' *new.*
Look at me. *Another broken record.* But maybe I like it that way.
How's that fer *deja vu?*
NEXT: ROAD TO ENDGAME!

Travel Insurance
GET A QUOTE

BREAKING NEWS ***EXCLUSIVE***

KREMLIN BURNS, REPUBLIC FALLS INTO CHAOS

Published December 12, 2025, 10:14 a.m. ET

❝ 616K Comments

ONLINE PHOTOS EMERGE OF THE KREMLIN UNDER SEIGE

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Travel Insurance
GET A QUOTE

Shocking images emerged from the Eurasian Republic this morning as Moscow residents awoke to find themselves thrust into a significant moment in history. Flames and smoke rose from the Kremlin, signaling a seeming end to the rule of the Rasputin and Rossovich regime in volatile fashion.

Notably, the Republic's leaders have remained mysteriously absent, leaving the Republic's citizenry untethered from their rule. Further chaos developed as soldiers abandoned posts and citizens took to the streets with fists raised in seeming support of the Republic's adversaries, the so-called terrorist organization known as the Opposition--which last month was revealed to be led by former leader Mikhail Rasputin. The silence from the Republic's leaders as to the nature of the attacks and the status of the government and its leaders has thrown the region into chaos and left many to question whether the leaders are alive or dead and, if alive, their whereabouts.

The Republic had recently announced the destruction of the Opposition, providing images of anonymous crumbled structures—but without significant proof, many questioned the veracity of the claim. The developments this morning from Moscow have sent shock waves through the Republic, with many theorizing the attack on the Kremlin and the apparent toppling of the government was perpetrated by the Opposition and thus evidence that the Republic had fabricated the group's destruction to quell protests and quiet dissent.

There has been no official statement yet from the Republic government or from military leaders. Sources have reported Republic officials urgently fleeing the city and burning or discarding documentation as they left their offices and government-appointed homes. According to these sources, the Republic's leaders were last seen the day prior to the Kremlin's burning but have not been seen on or leaving the premises since. At this point, no organization foreign or domestic has claimed responsibility for the attack.

VIDEO WILL PLAY AFTER AD

This is a developing story and will be updated with new information as it becomes available.

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CONDON
CARBONE VALENZA

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ON SALE THIS MONTH

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BY **PEACH MOMOKO**

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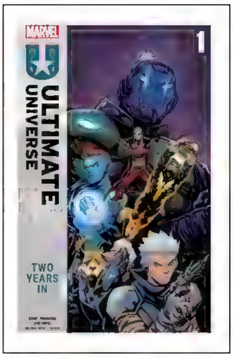
ULTIMATES #19

BY **DENIZ CAMP**
& **JUAN FRIGERI**


MARVEL
1
ULTIMATE
UNIVERSE
TWO
YEARS
IN

ULTIMATE UNIVERSE:
TWO YEARS IN #1

BY **DENIZ CAMP,**
ALEX PAKNADEL & **MORE**

MARVEL
ULTIMATE
ENDGAME

ULTIMATE ENDGAME #1

BY **DENIZ CAMP,**
TERRY DODSON
& **JONAS SCHARF**

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU! EMAIL US AT **ULTIMATEOFFICE@MARVEL.COM** AND MARK YOUR LETTERS **"OKAY TO PRINT"**!

1

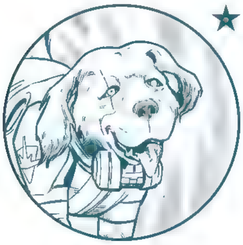
A diabolical genius known as **THE MAKER** used time travel to create his ideal Earth by systematically preventing anyone from ever becoming a super hero and by establishing a secret council of super villains, **THE MAKER'S COUNCIL**, that rules the world from the shadows.

By creating his ideal Earth, though, he destroyed the future that this universe should have had. The heroes of that future, the **GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY** from the 61st Century, were consequently scattered across the warped timestream. A few of them--**CAPTAIN MARVEL**, **STAR-LORD**, **ULTIMATE NULLIFIER** and their leader **COSMO**--managed to find each other and began searching the timestream for the rest, which led them to the 21st Century and their teammate **AMERICA CHAVEZ**. There they learned of the resistance network of heroes that America had joined, **THE ULTIMATES**, and their mission to right the course of the universe.

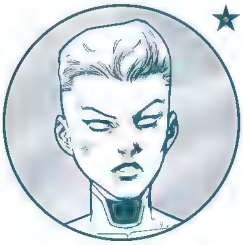
And so the Guardians returned to searching for more heroes lost in time to help in the coming battle against the Maker...

ULTIMATE UNIVERSE: TWO YEARS IN

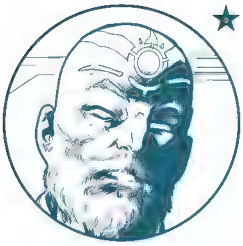
CAST:



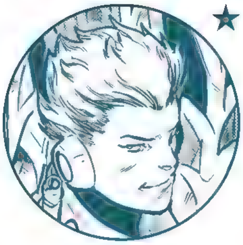
COSMO STARSTALKER
THE ULTIMATE
GOOD BOY!



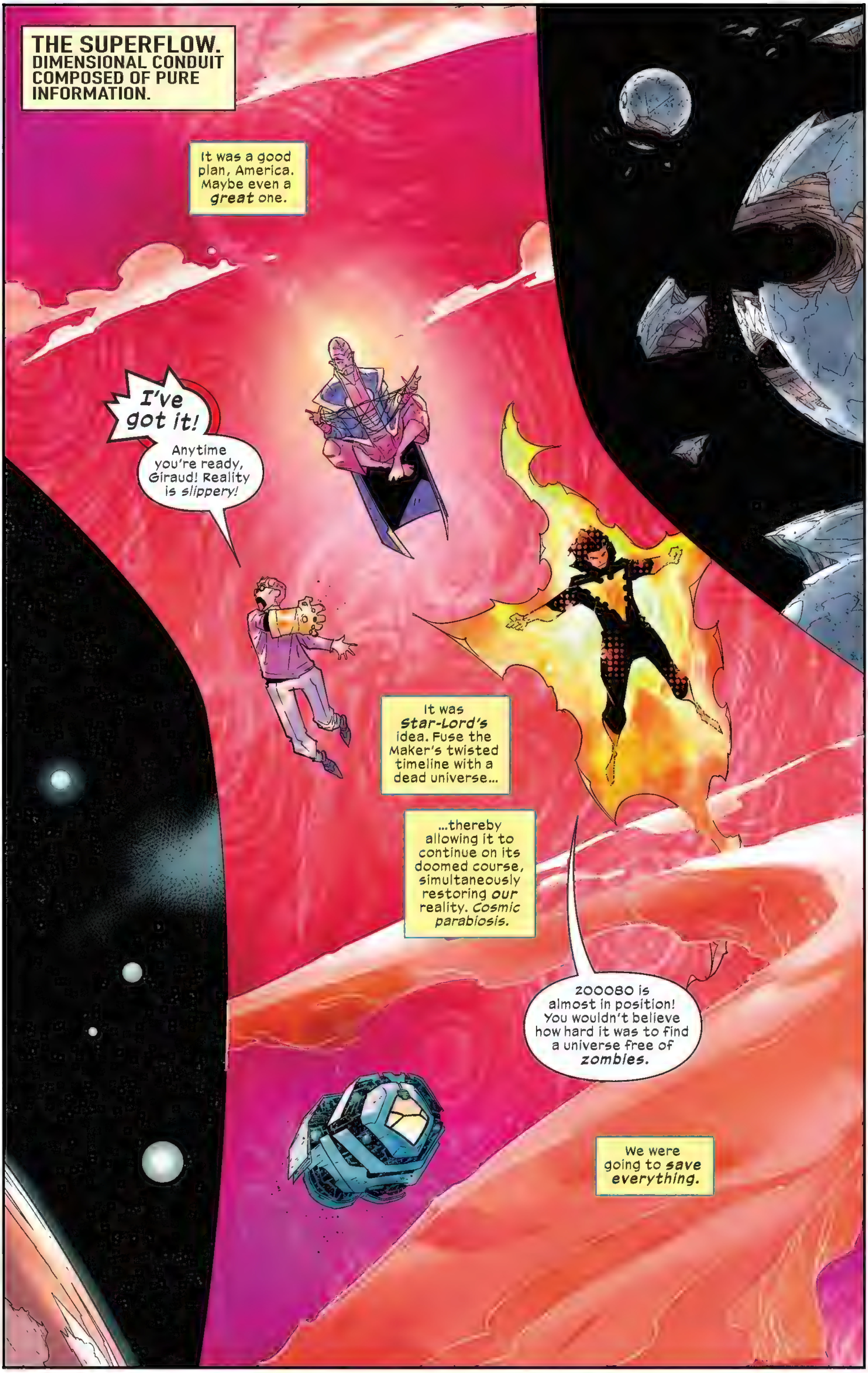
CAPTAIN MARVEL
PROTECTOR OF THE
UNIVERSE, WEARER OF
THE OMNI-BANDS!

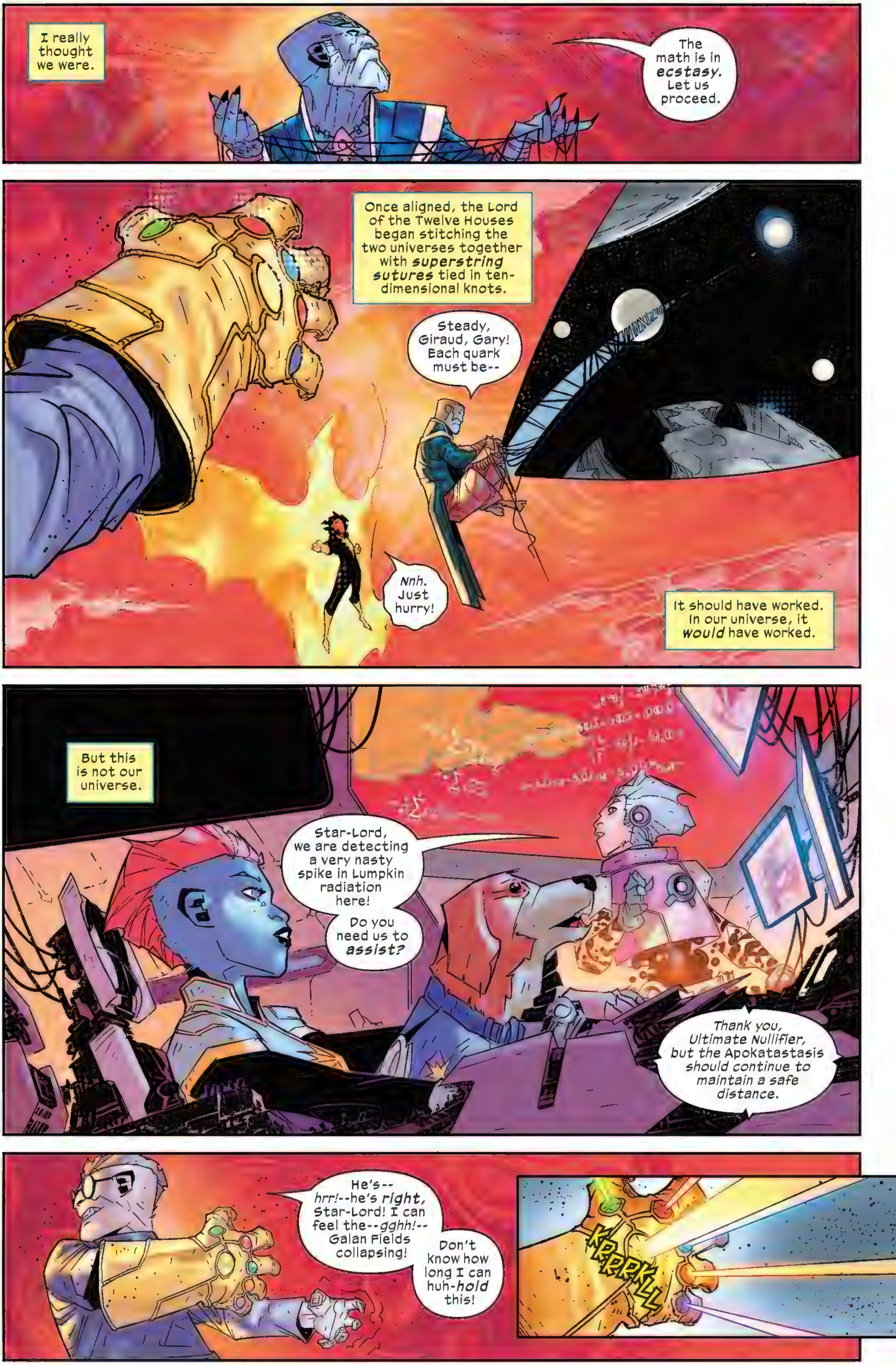


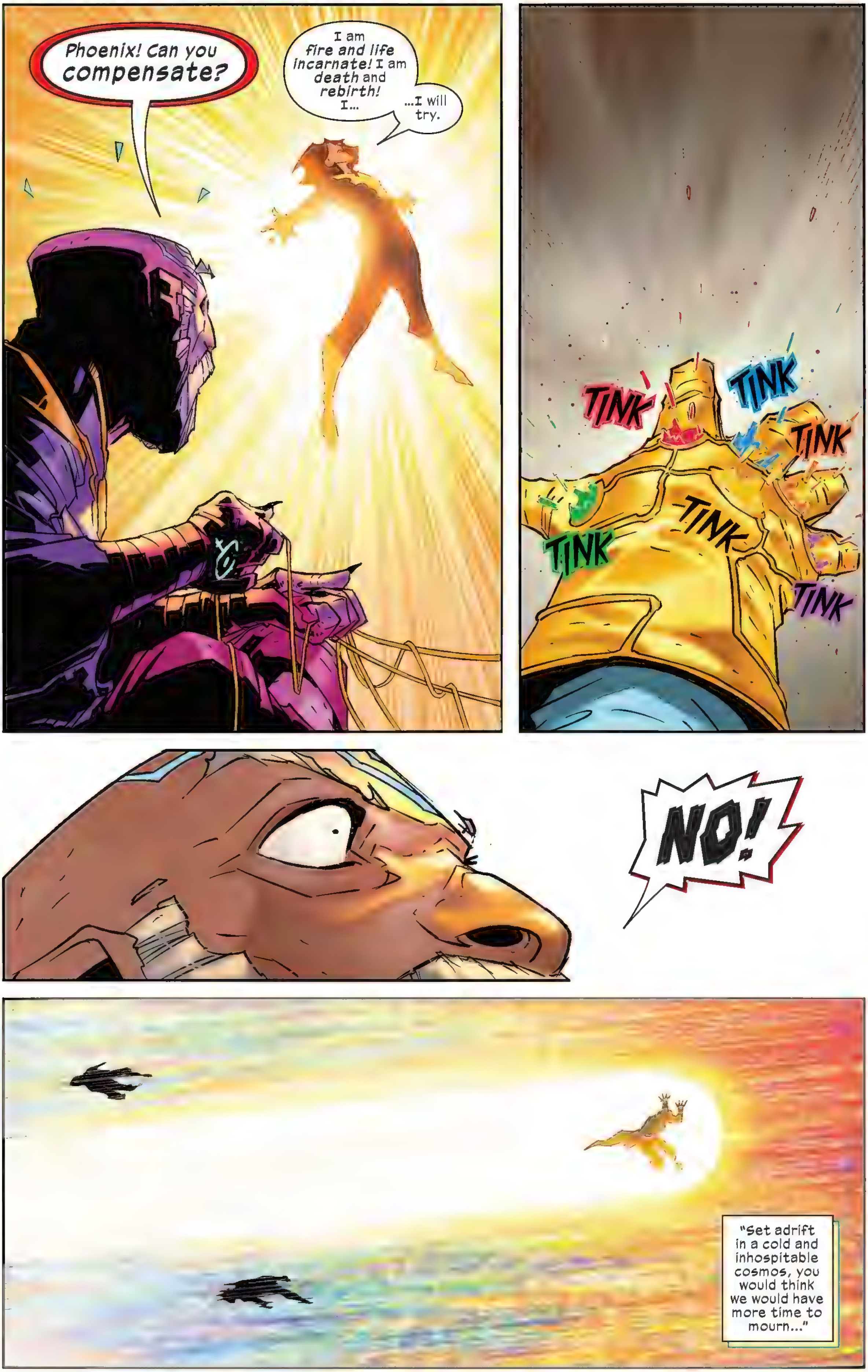
STAR-LORD
MASTER OF THE SOLAR
SYSTEM, LORD OF THE
TWELVE HOUSES AND THE
LAND BEYOND THE SUN!

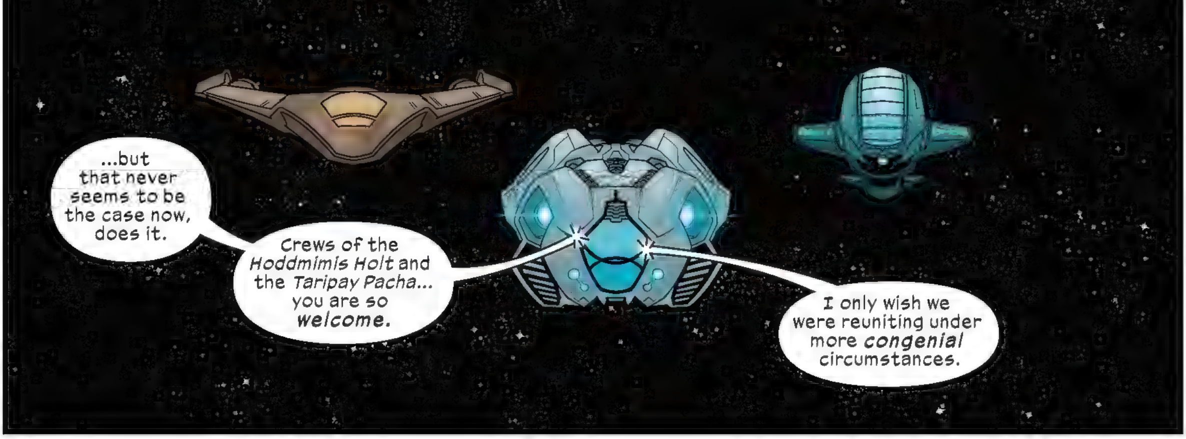


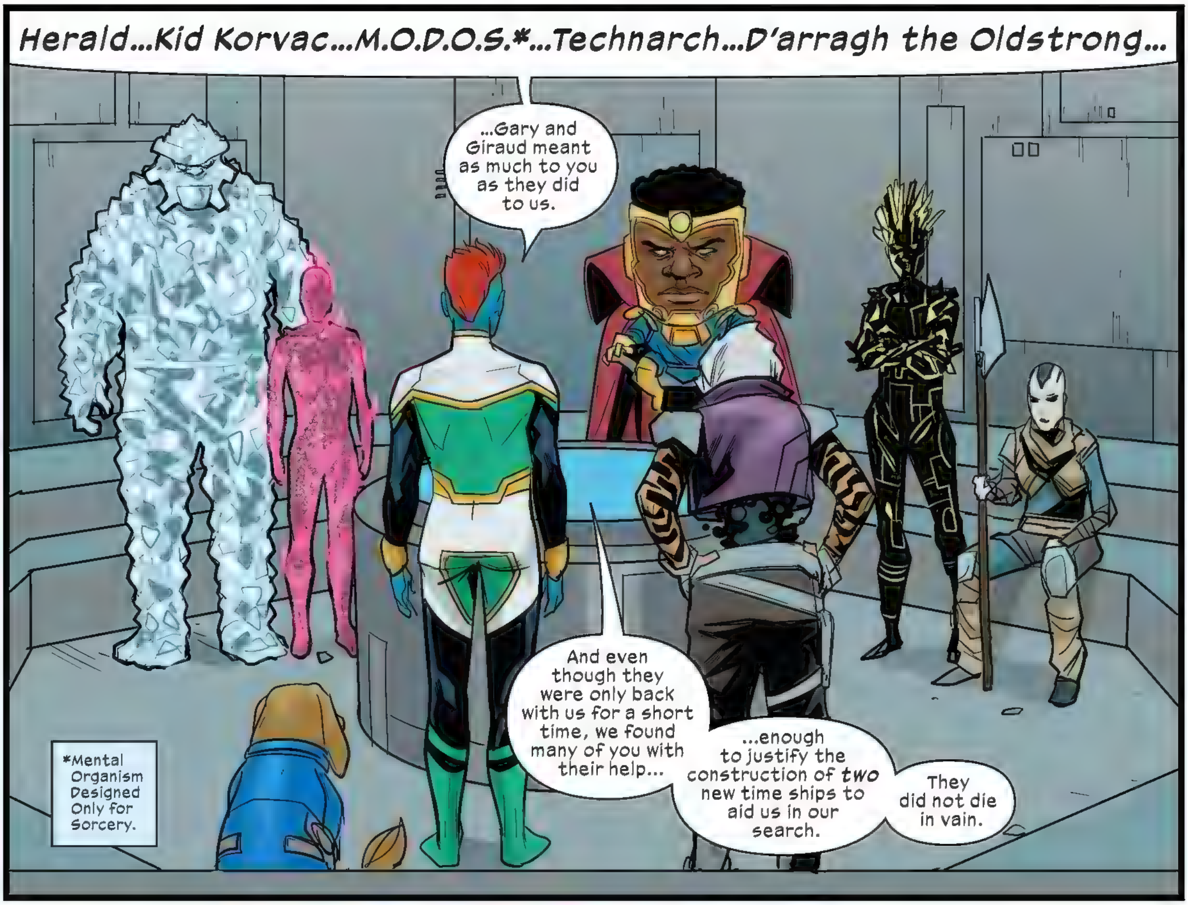
ULTIMATE NULLIFIER
WIELDER OF THE N-GUNS,
WHICH CAN NULLIFY
ANYTHING HE FULLY
UNDERSTANDS!

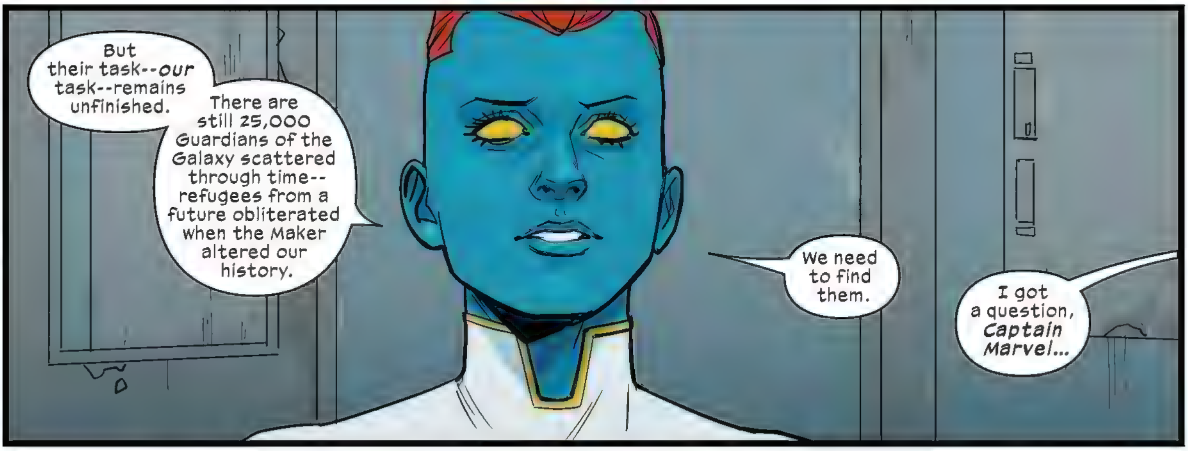

THE SUPERFLOW. DIMENSIONAL CONDUIT COMPOSED OF PURE INFORMATION.
It was a good plan, America. Maybe even a *great* one.
I've got it!
Anytime you're ready, Giraud! Reality is *slippery!*
It was *Star-Lord's* idea. Fuse the Maker's twisted timeline with a dead universe...
...thereby allowing it to continue on its doomed course, simultaneously restoring *our* reality. *Cosmic parabiosis.*
200080 is almost in position! You wouldn't believe how hard it was to find a universe free of *zombies.*
We were going to *save everything.*

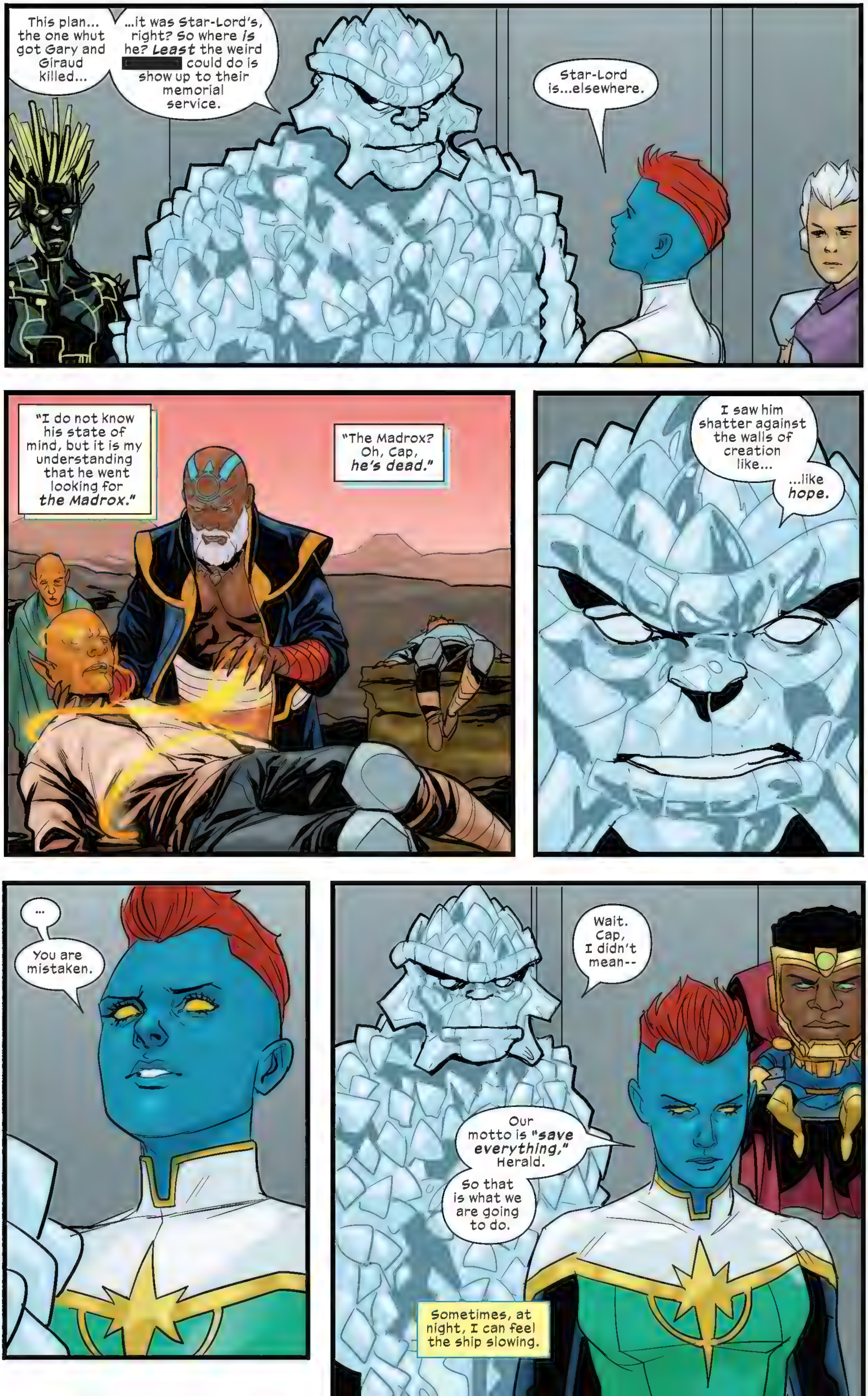

I really thought we were.
The math is in *ecstasy.* Let us proceed.
Once aligned, the Lord of the Twelve Houses began stitching the two universes together with ***superstring sutures*** tied in ten-dimensional knots.
Steady, Giraud, Gary! Each quark must be--
Nnh. Just hurry!
It should have worked. In our universe, it *would* have worked.
But this is not our universe.
Star-Lord, we are detecting a very nasty spike in Lumpkin radiation here!
Do you need us to ***assist?***
Thank you, Ultimate Nullifier, but the Apokatastasis should continue to maintain a safe distance.
He's--*hrr!*--he's ***right,*** Star-Lord! I can feel the--*gghh!*--Galan Fields collapsing!
Don't know how long I can huh-***hold*** this!
KRRRKLL

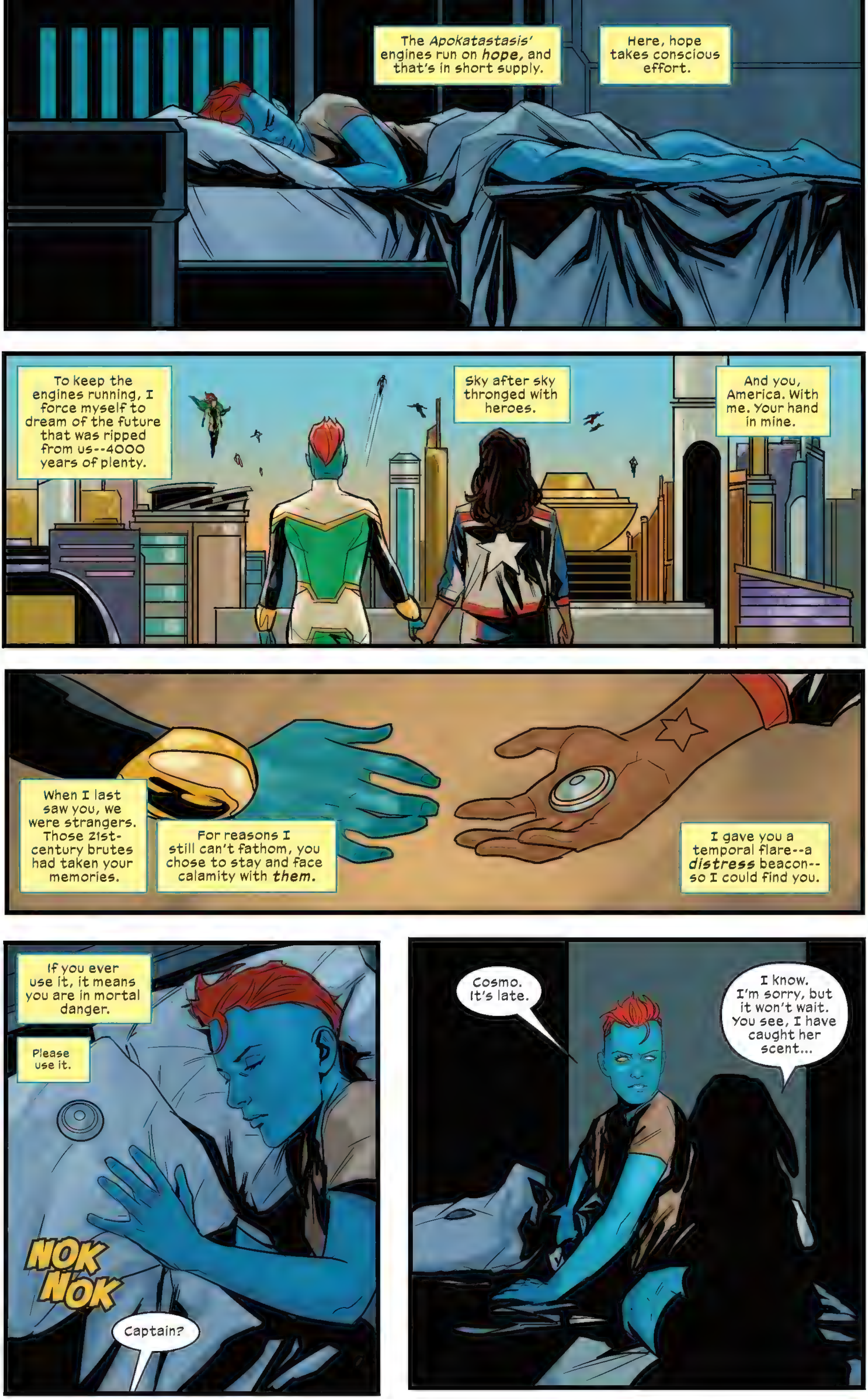

Phoenix! Can you compensate?
I am fire and life incarnate! I am death and rebirth! I...
...I will try.
TINK
TINK
TINK
TINK
TINK
TINK
NO!
"Set adrift in a cold and inhospitable cosmos, you would think we would have more time to mourn..."

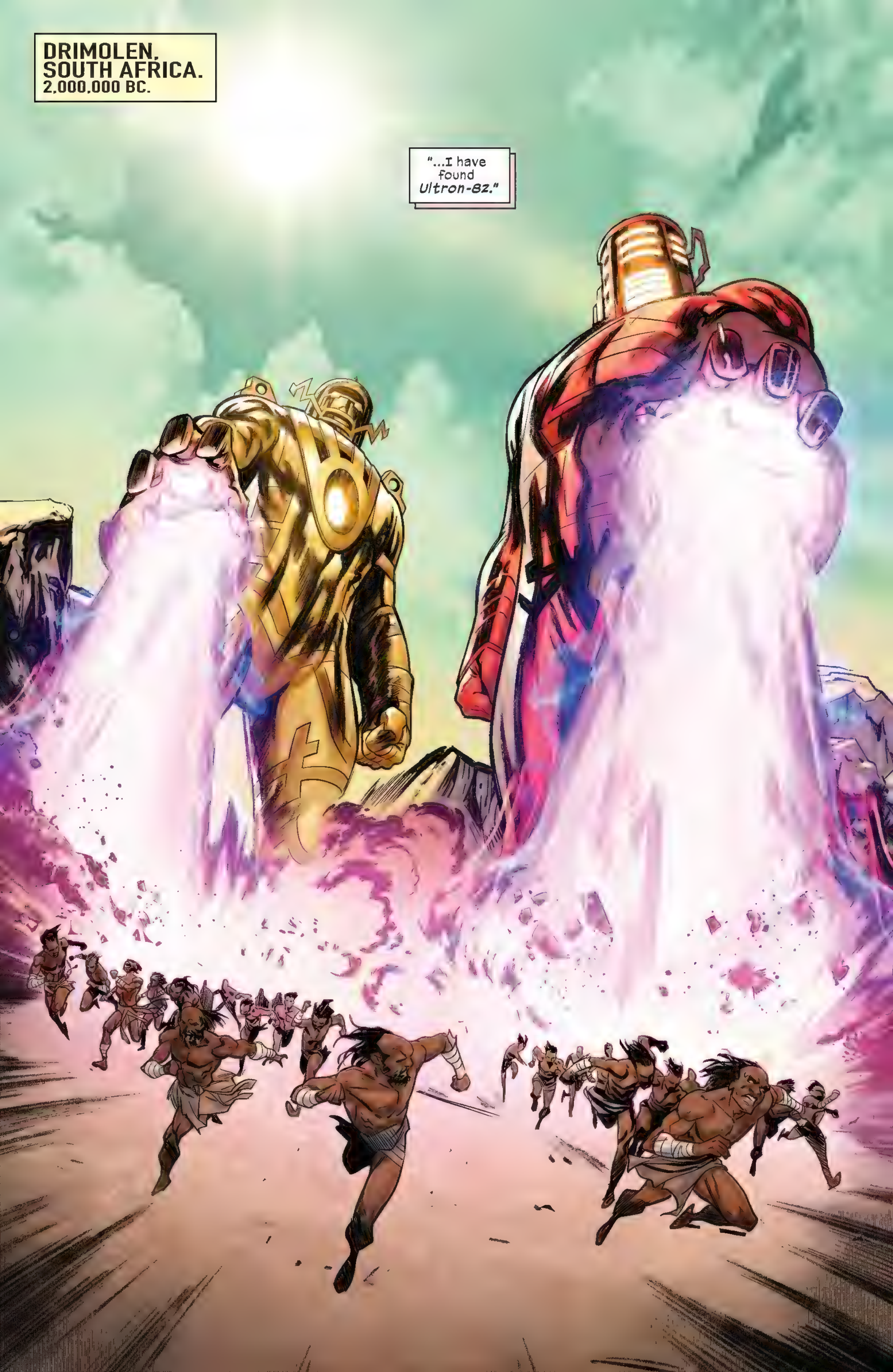

...but that never seems to be the case now, does it.
Crews of the *Hoddmimis Holt* and the *Taripay Pacha*... you are so ***welcome.***
I only wish we were reuniting under more ***congenial*** circumstances.

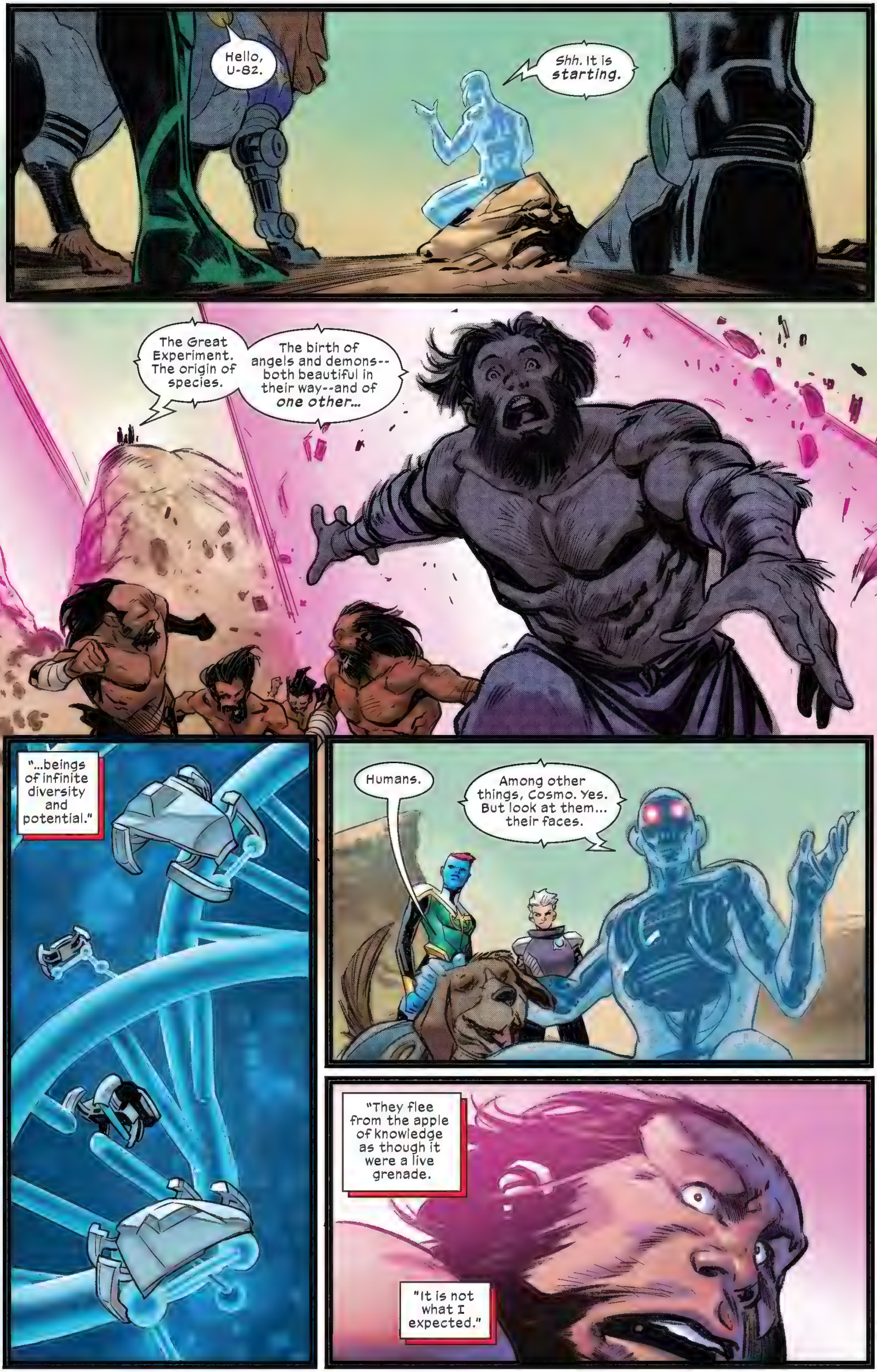

Herald...Kid Korvac...M.O.D.O.S....Technarch...D'arragh the Oldstrong...*
...Gary and Giraud meant as much to you as they did to us.
And even though they were only back with us for a short time, we found many of you with their help...
...enough to justify the construction of ***two*** new time ships to aid us in our search.
They did not die in vain.
*Mental Organism Designed Only for Sorcery.

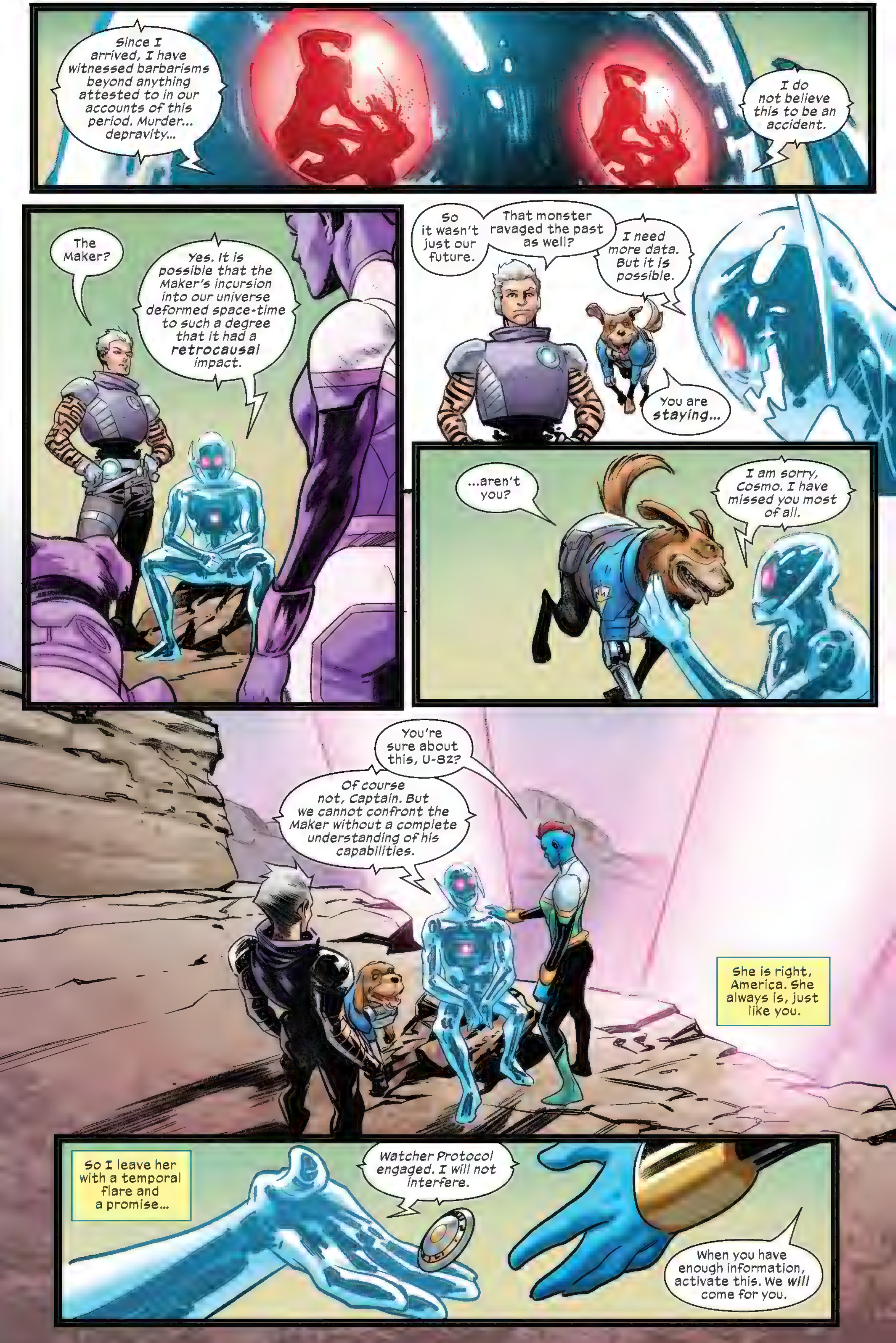

But their task--***our*** task--remains unfinished.
There are still 25,000 Guardians of the Galaxy scattered through time--refugees from a future obliterated when the Maker altered our history.
We need to find them.
I got a question, ***Captain Marvel...***

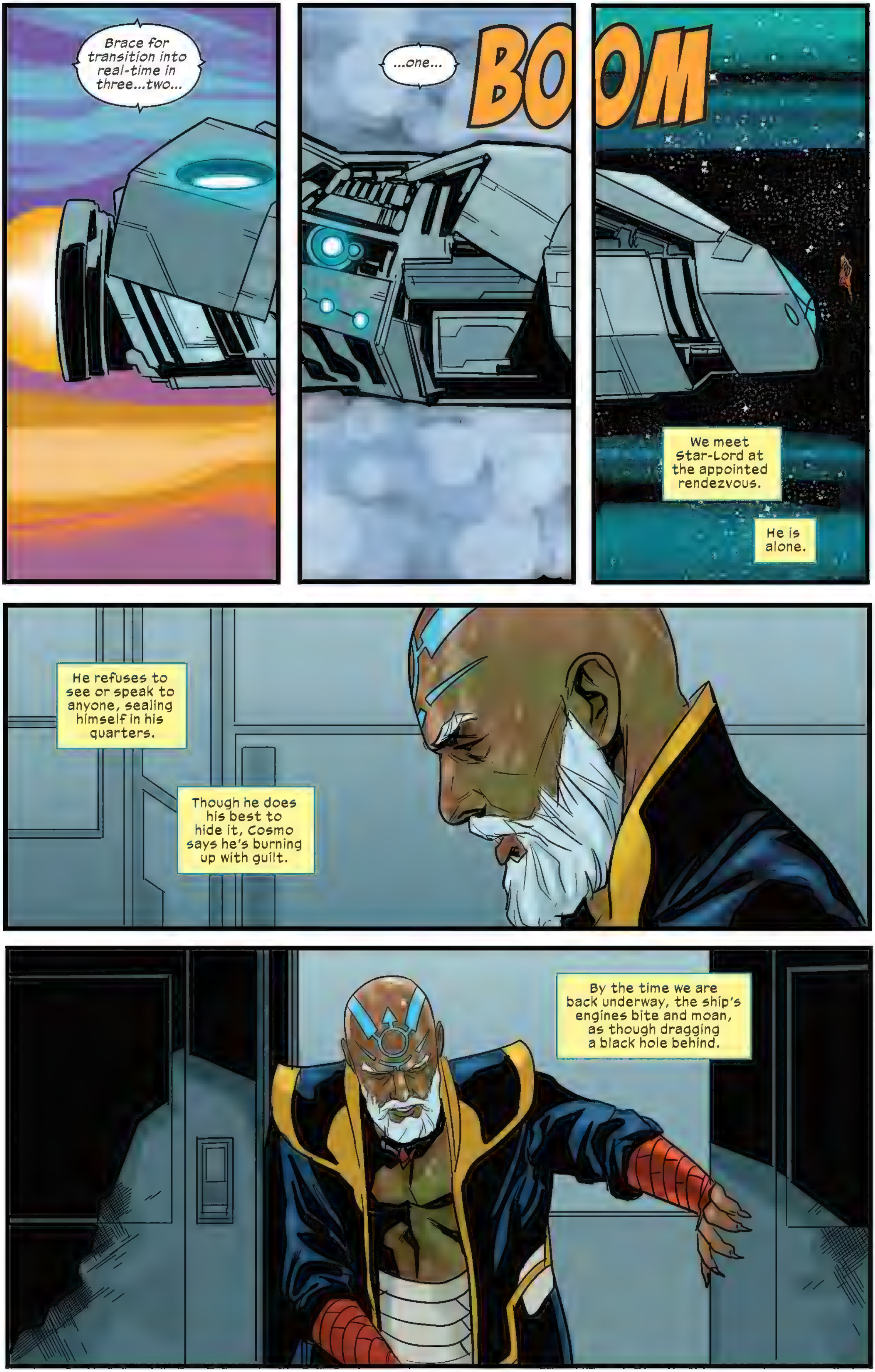

This plan... the one whut got Gary and Giraud killed...
...it was Star-Lord's, right? So where *is* he? *Least* the weird [redacted] could do is show up to their memorial service.
Star-Lord is...elsewhere.
"I do not know his state of mind, but it is my understanding that he went looking for *the Madrox.*"
"The Madrox? Oh, Cap, *he's dead.*"
I saw him shatter against the walls of creation like...
...like *hope.*
...
You are mistaken.
Wait. Cap, I didn't mean--
Our motto is "*save everything,*" Herald.
So that is what we are going to do.
Sometimes, at night, I can feel the ship slowing.

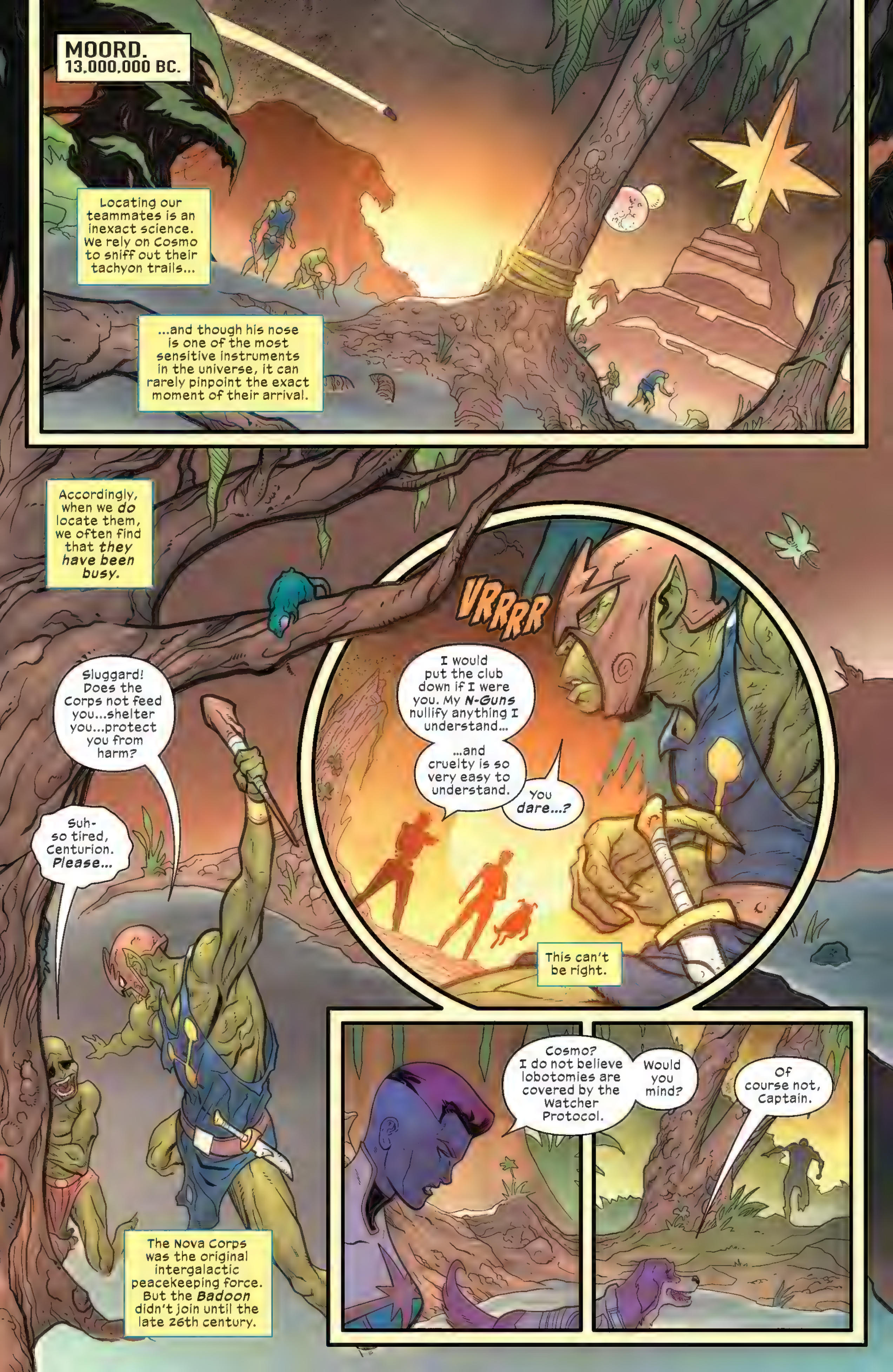

The *Apokatastasis'* engines run on ***hope,*** and that's in short supply.
Here, hope takes conscious effort.
To keep the engines running, I force myself to dream of the future that was ripped from us--4000 years of plenty.
Sky after sky thronged with heroes.
And you, America. With me. Your hand in mine.
When I last saw you, we were strangers. Those 21st-century brutes had taken your memories.
For reasons I still can't fathom, you chose to stay and face calamity with ***them.***
I gave you a temporal flare--a ***distress*** beacon--so I could find you.
If you ever use it, it means you are in mortal danger.
Please use it.
NOK NOK
Captain?
Cosmo. It's late.
I know. I'm sorry, but it won't wait. You see, I have caught her scent...

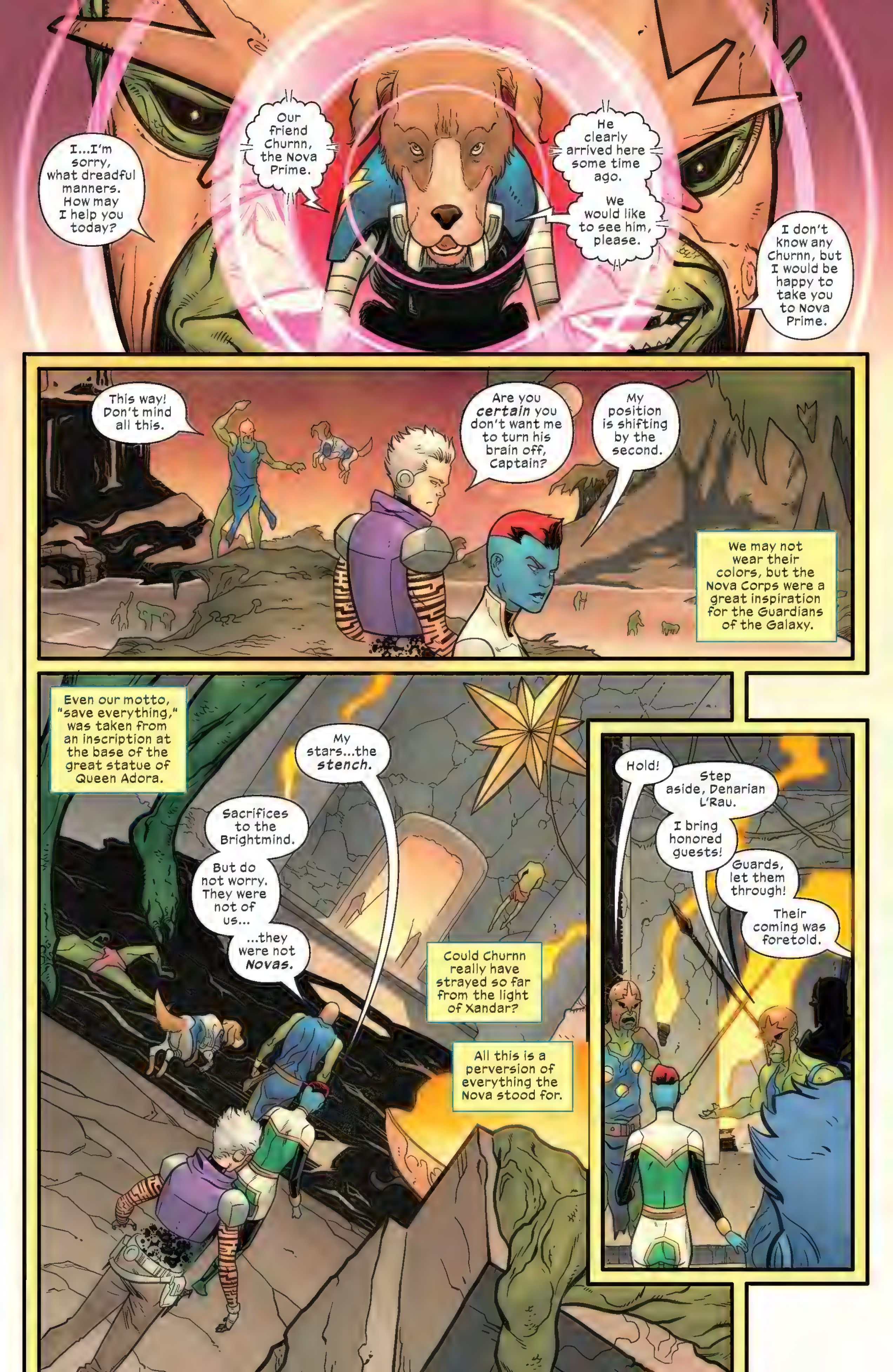

DRIMOLEN, SOUTH AFRICA. 2,000,000 BC.
"...I have found *Ultron-8z.*"

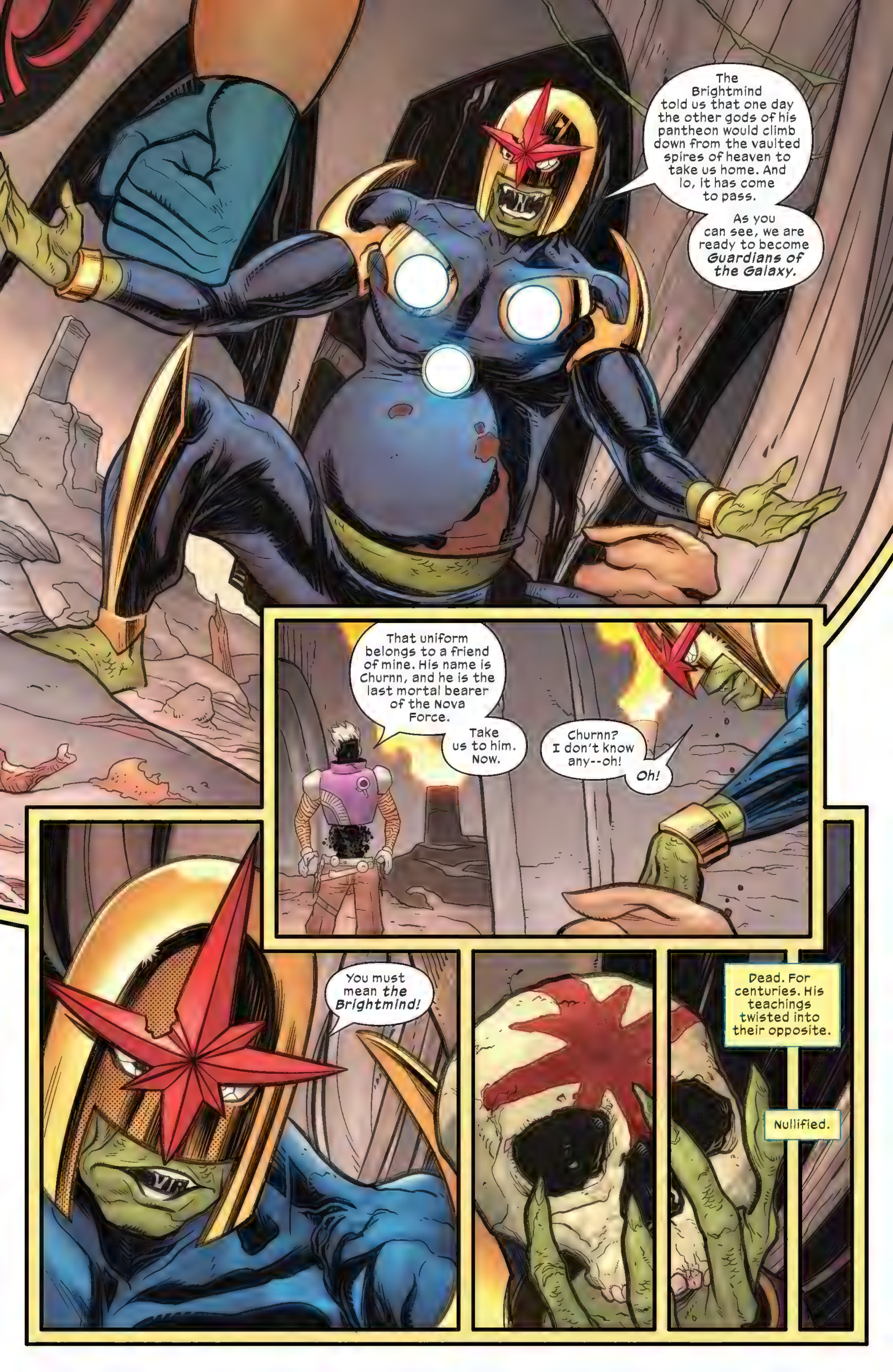

Hello, U-82.
Shh. It is *starting.*
The Great Experiment. The origin of species.
The birth of angels and demons--both beautiful in their way--and of *one other...*
"...beings of infinite diversity and potential."
Humans.
Among other things, Cosmo. Yes. But look at them... their faces.
"They flee from the apple of knowledge as though it were a live grenade.
"It is not what I expected."

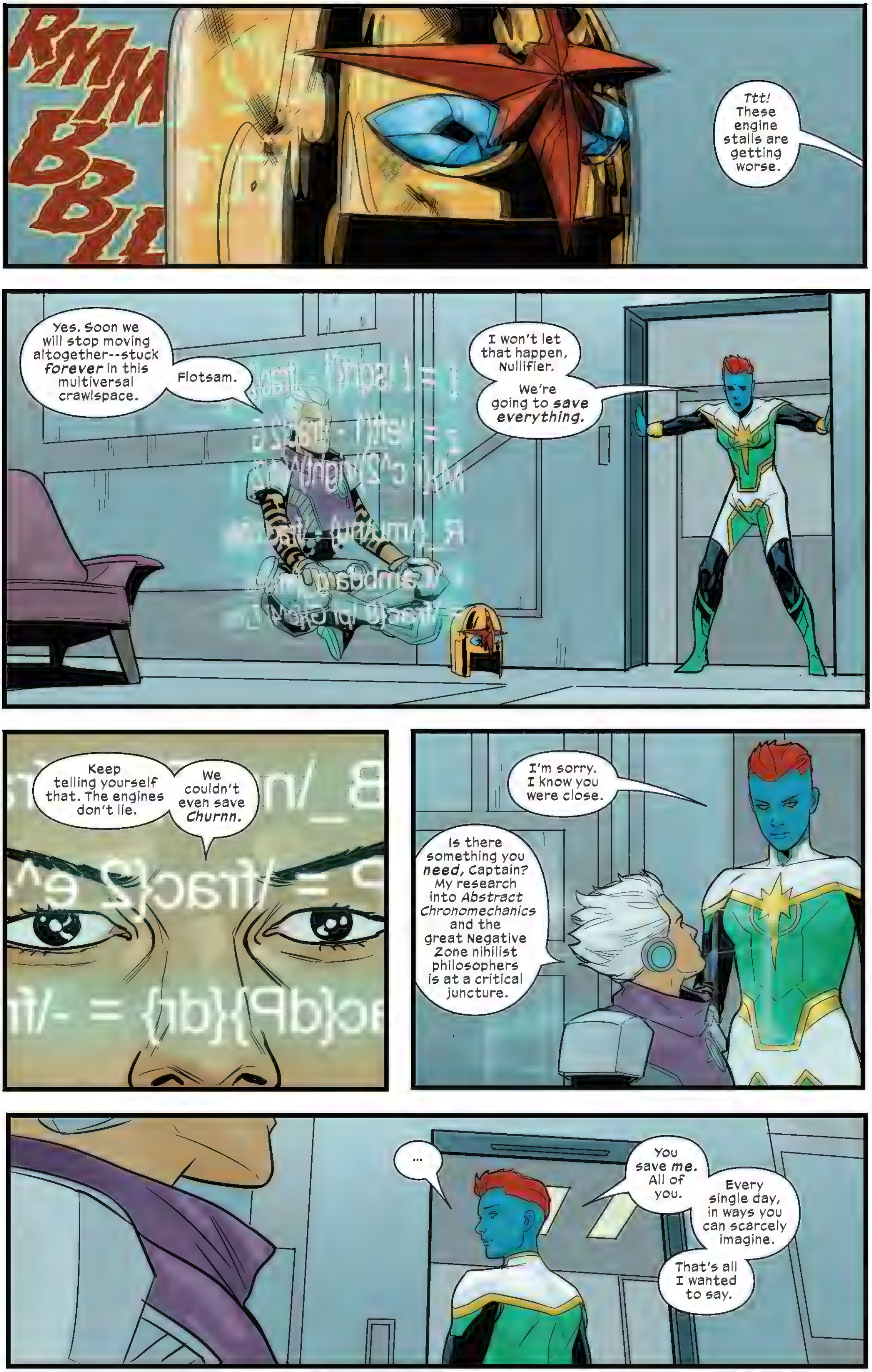

Since I arrived, I have witnessed barbarisms beyond anything attested to in our accounts of this period. Murder... depravity...
I do not believe this to be an accident.
The Maker?
Yes. It is possible that the Maker's incursion into our universe deformed space-time to such a degree that it had a **retrocausal** impact.
So it wasn't just our future.
That monster ravaged the past as well?
I need more data. But it *is* possible.
You are **staying...**
...aren't you?
I am sorry, Cosmo. I have missed you most of all.
You're sure about this, U-82?
Of course not, Captain. But we cannot confront the Maker without a complete understanding of his capabilities.
She is right, America. She always is, just like you.
So I leave her with a temporal flare and a promise...
Watcher Protocol engaged. I will not interfere.
When you have enough information, activate this. We *will* come for you.

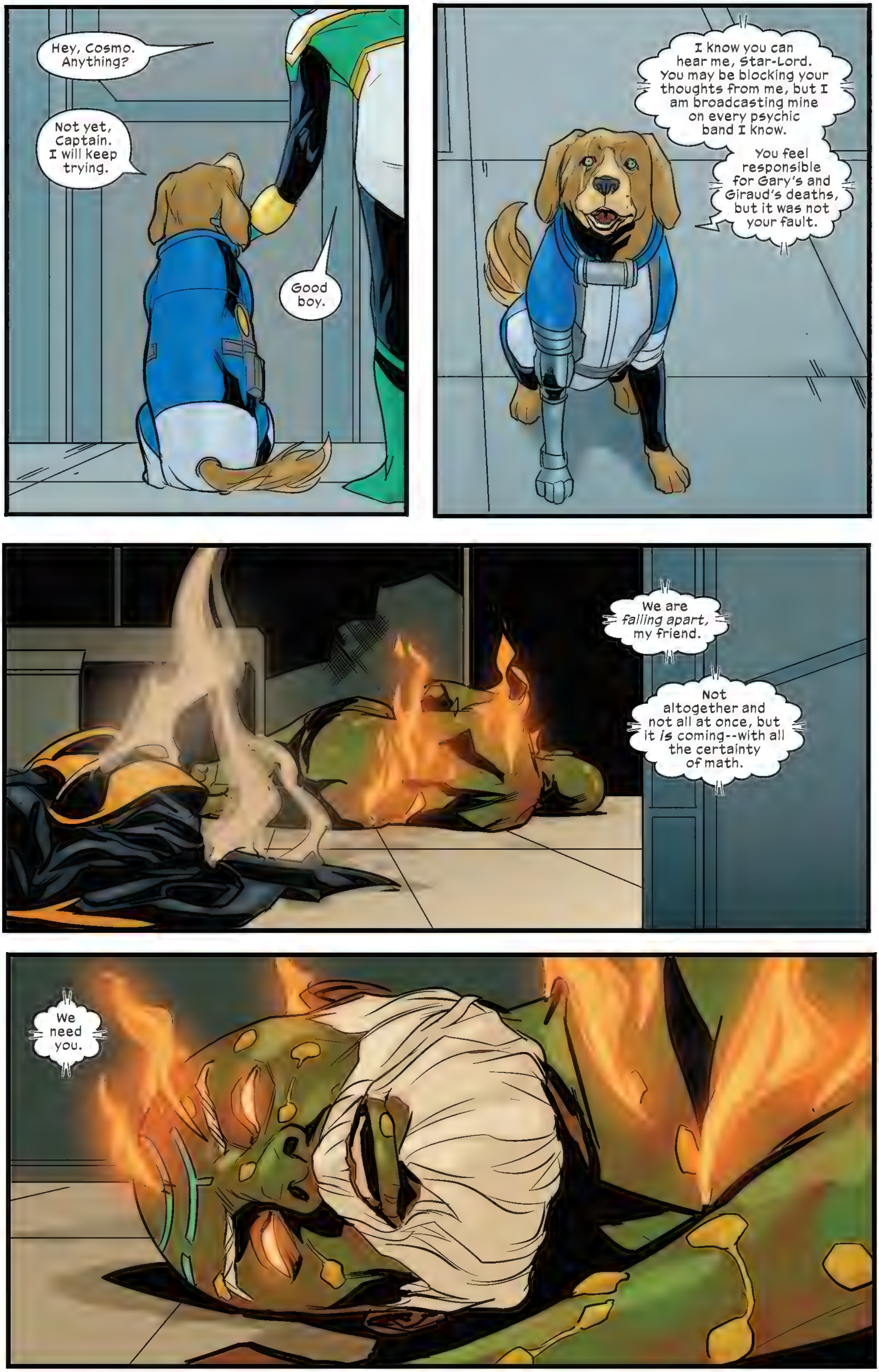

Brace for transition into real-time in three...two...
...one...
BOOM
We meet Star-Lord at the appointed rendezvous.
He is alone.
He refuses to see or speak to anyone, sealing himself in his quarters.
Though he does his best to hide it, Cosmo says he's burning up with guilt.
By the time we are back underway, the ship's engines bite and moan, as though dragging a black hole behind.

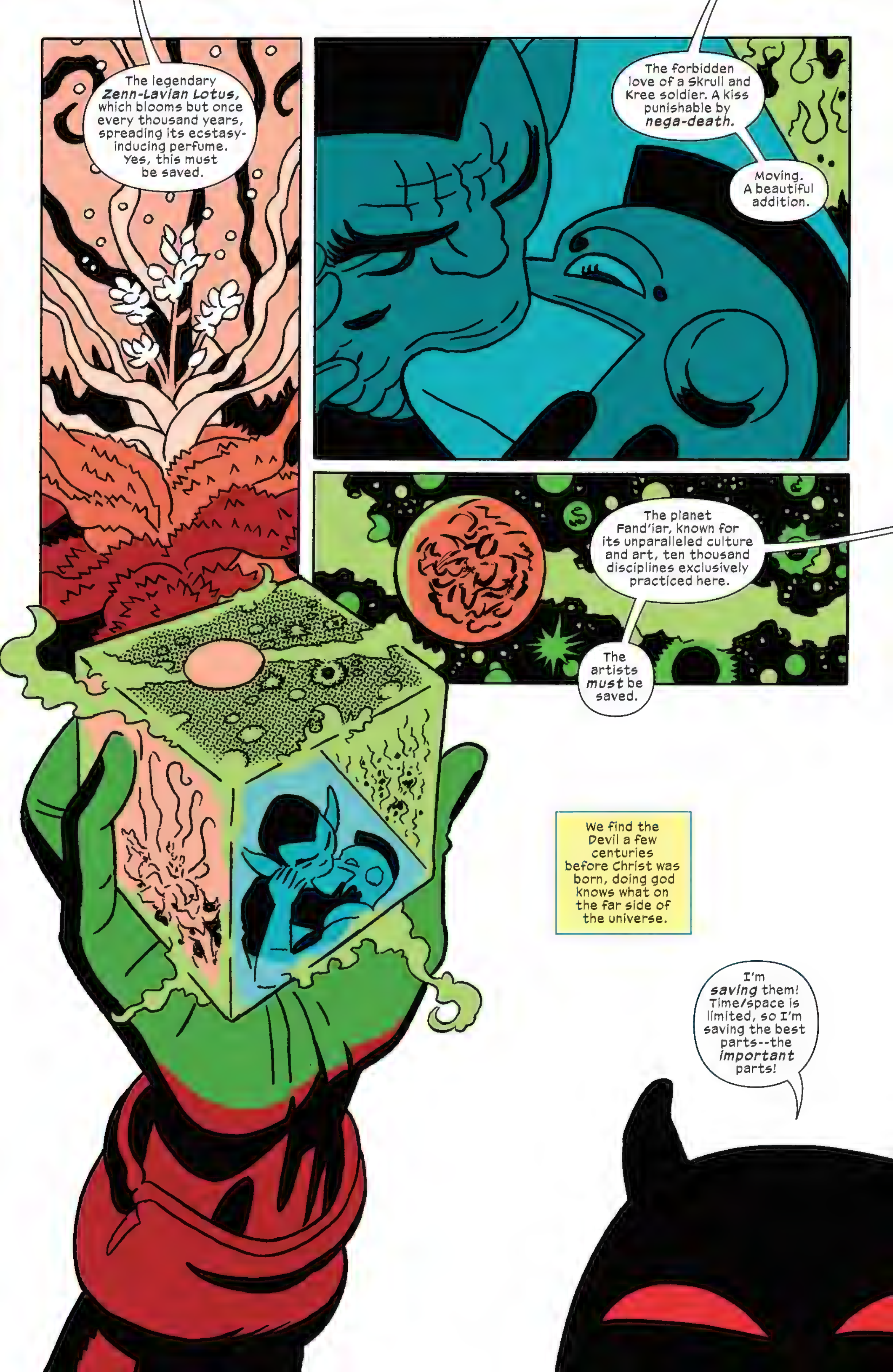

MOORD.
13,000,000 BC.
Locating our teammates is an inexact science. We rely on Cosmo to sniff out their tachyon trails...
...and though his nose is one of the most sensitive instruments in the universe, it can rarely pinpoint the exact moment of their arrival.
Accordingly, when we *do* locate them, we often find that *they have been busy.*
Sluggard! Does the Corps not feed you...shelter you...protect you from harm?
Suh-so tired, Centurion. *Please...*
VRRRR
I would put the club down if I were you. My ***N-Guns*** nullify anything I understand...
...and cruelty is so very easy to understand.
You *dare...?*
This can't be right.
The Nova Corps was the original intergalactic peacekeeping force. But the ***Badoon*** didn't join until the late 26th century.
Cosmo? I do not believe lobotomies are covered by the Watcher Protocol.
Would you mind?
Of course not, Captain.

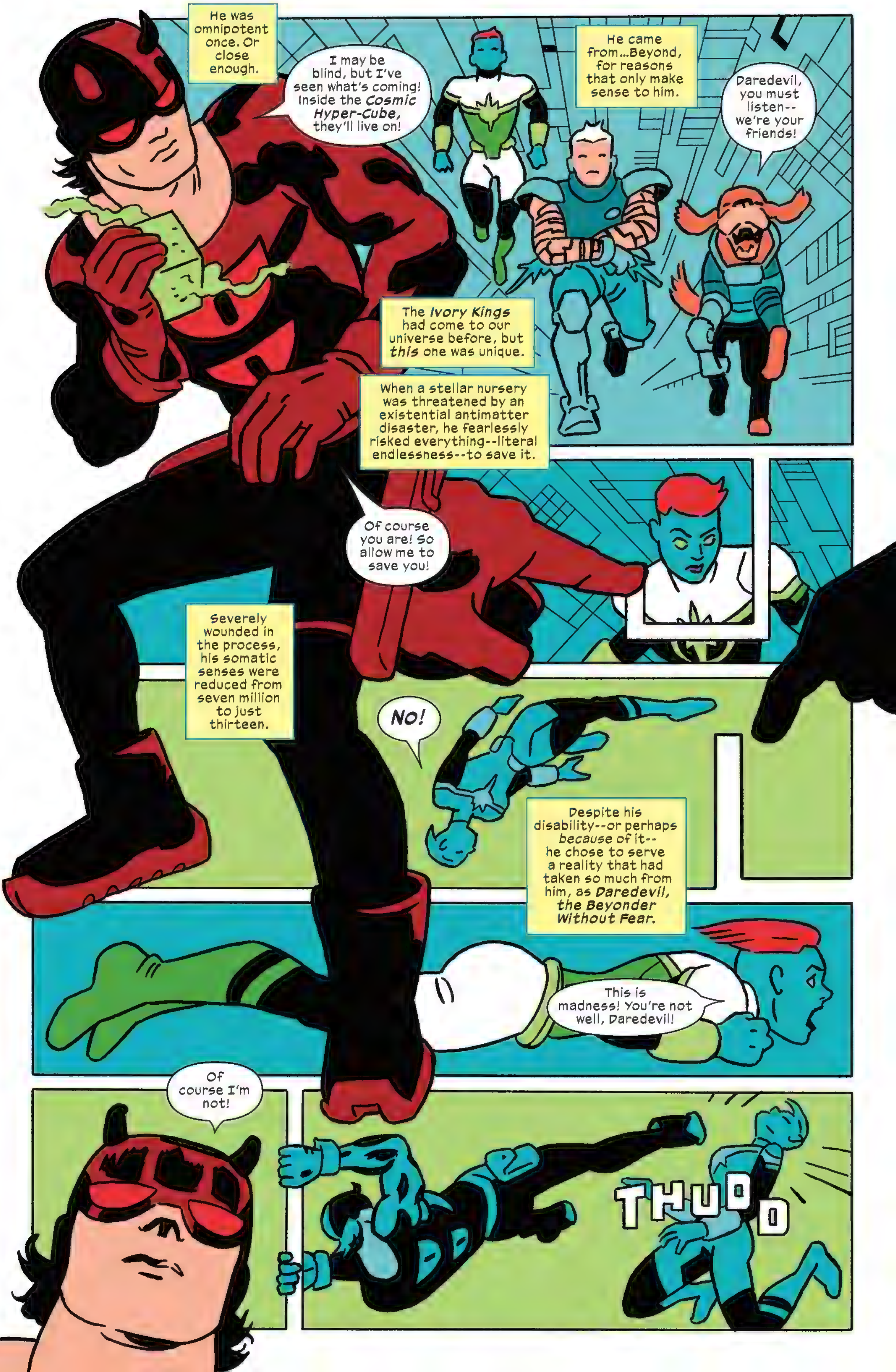

I...I'm sorry, what dreadful manners. How may I help you today?
Our friend Churnn, the Nova Prime.
He clearly arrived here some time ago.
We would like to see him, please.
I don't know any Churnn, but I would be happy to take you to Nova Prime.
This way! Don't mind all this.
Are you *certain* you don't want me to turn his brain off, Captain?
My position is shifting by the second.
We may not wear their colors, but the Nova Corps were a great inspiration for the Guardians of the Galaxy.
Even our motto, "save everything," was taken from an inscription at the base of the great statue of Queen Adora.
My stars...the *stench.*
Sacrifices to the Brightmind.
But do not worry. They were not of us...
...they were not *Novas.*
Could Churnn really have strayed so far from the light of Xandar?
All this is a perversion of everything the Nova stood for.
Hold!
Step aside, Denarian L'Rau.
I bring honored guests!
Guards, let them through!
Their coming was foretold.]

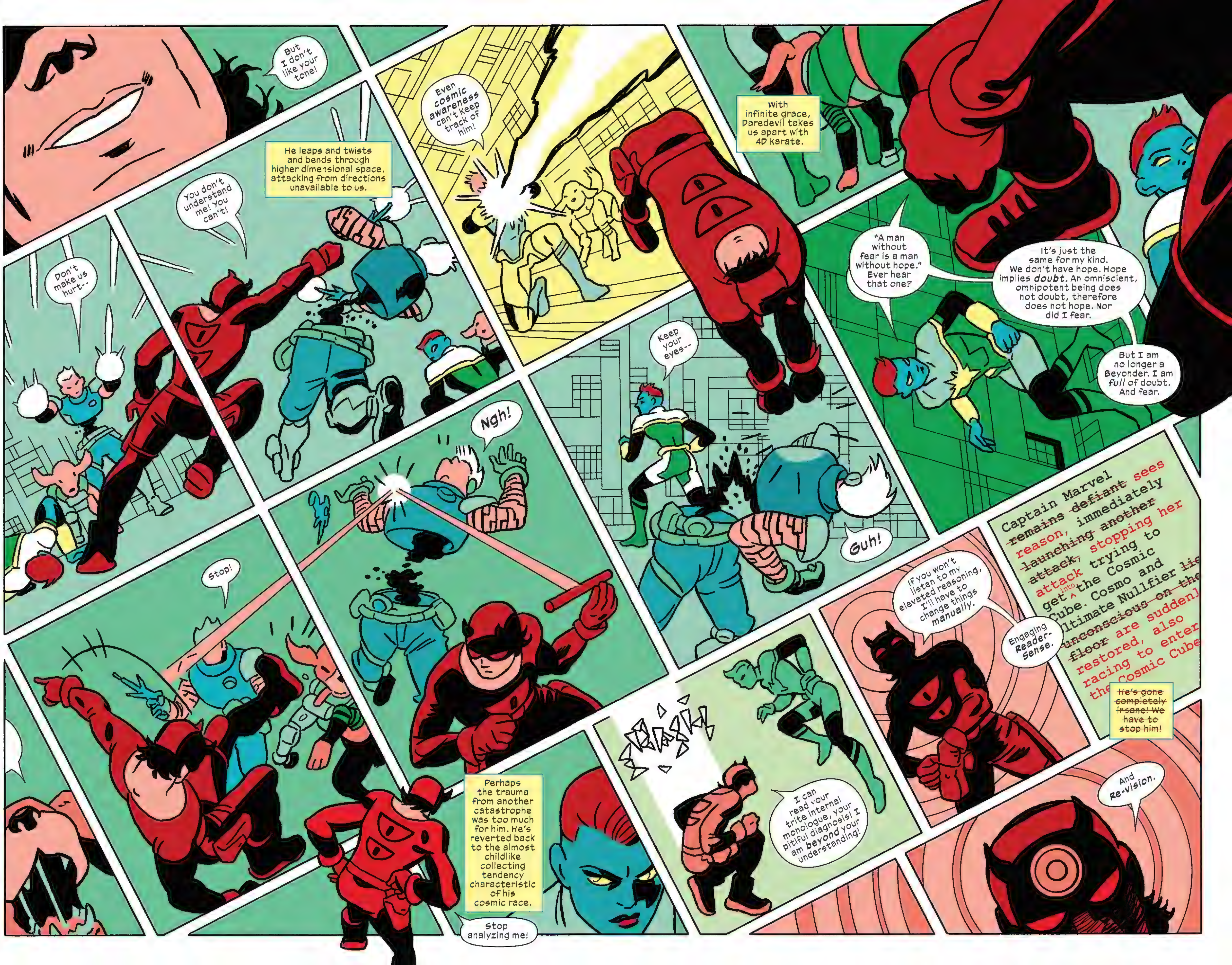

The Brightmind told us that one day the other gods of his pantheon would climb down from the vaulted spires of heaven to take us home. And lo, it has come to pass.
As you can see, we are ready to become *Guardians of the Galaxy.*
That uniform belongs to a friend of mine. His name is Churnn, and he is the last mortal bearer of the Nova Force.
Take us to him. Now.
Churnn? I don't know any--oh!
Oh!
You must mean *the Brightmind!*
Dead. For centuries. His teachings twisted into their opposite.
Nullified.

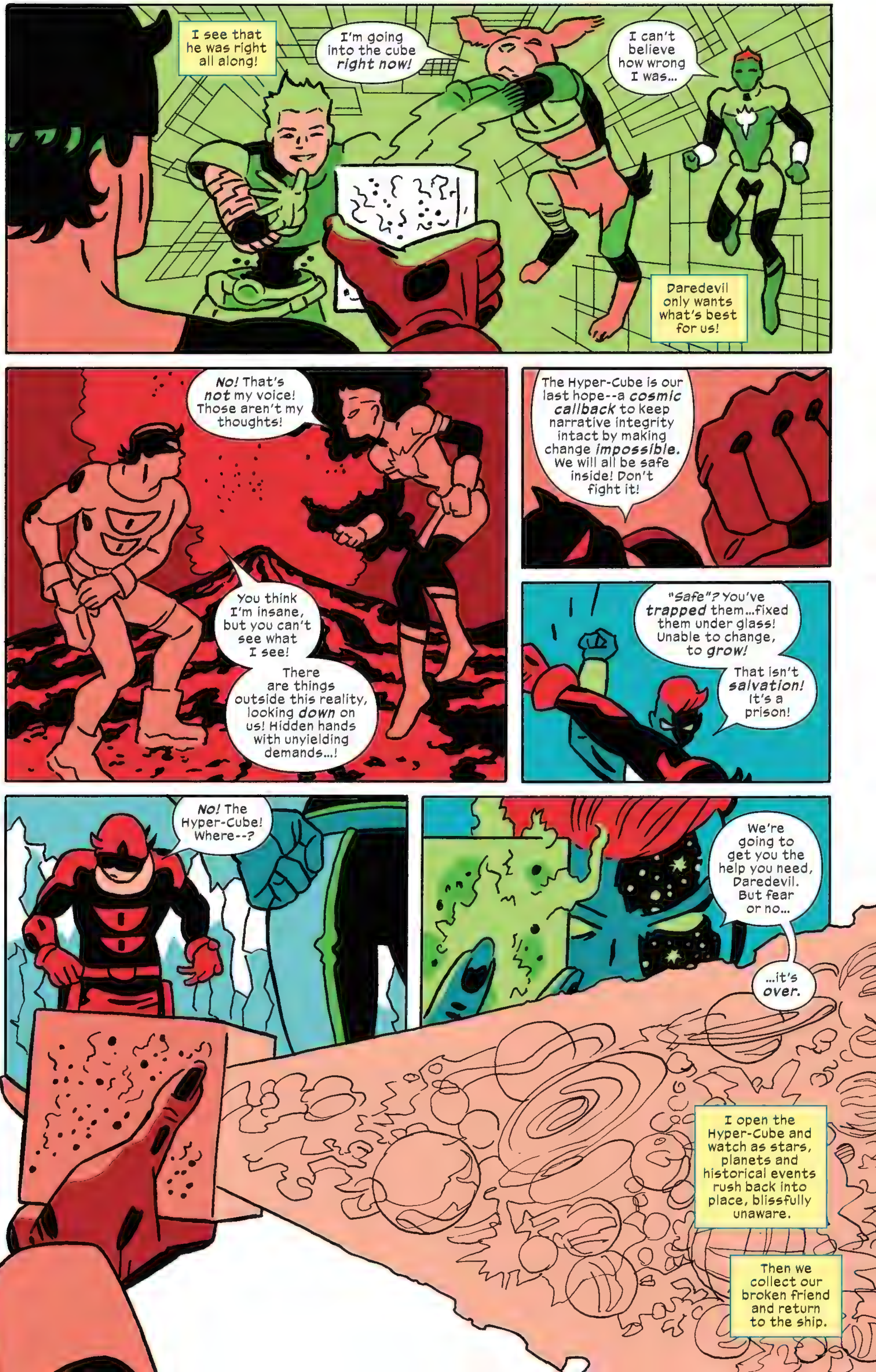

RMMBBLL
Ttt! These engine stalls are getting worse.
Yes. Soon we will stop moving altogether--stuck *forever* in this multiversal crawlspace.
Flotsam.
I won't let that happen, Nullifier.
We're going to *save everything.*
Keep telling yourself that. The engines don't lie.
We couldn't even save *Churnn.*
I'm sorry. I know you were close.
Is there something you *need,* Captain? My research into *Abstract Chronomechanics* and the great Negative Zone nihilist philosophers is at a critical juncture.
...
You save *me.* All of you.
Every single day, in ways you can scarcely imagine.
That's all I wanted to say.

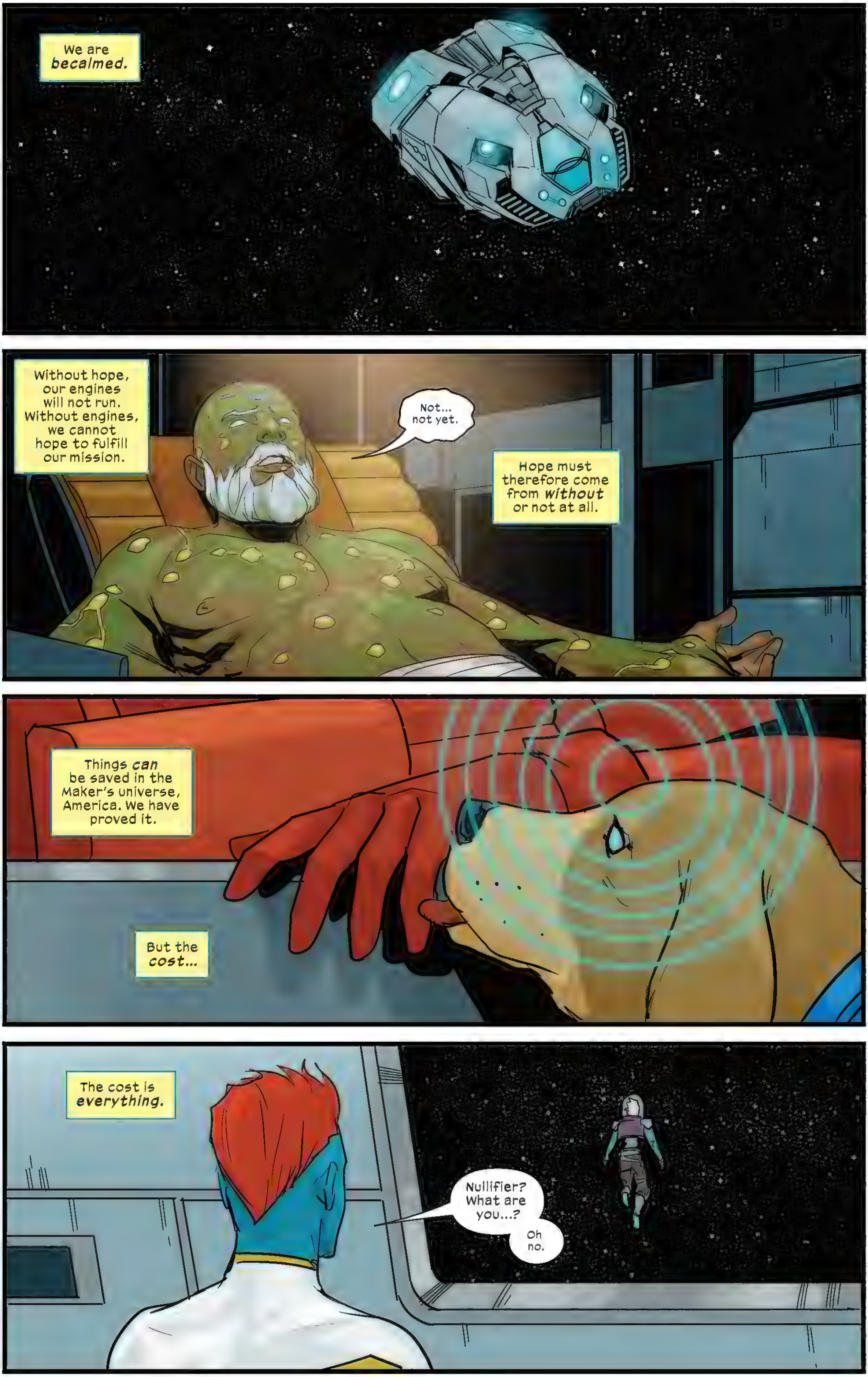

Hey, Cosmo. Anything?
Not yet, Captain. I will keep trying.
Good boy.
I know you can hear me, Star-Lord. You may be blocking your thoughts from me, but I am broadcasting mine on every psychic band I know.
You feel responsible for Gary's and Giraud's deaths, but it was not your fault.
We are *falling apart,* my friend.
Not altogether and not all at once, but it *is* coming--with all the certainty of math.
We need you.

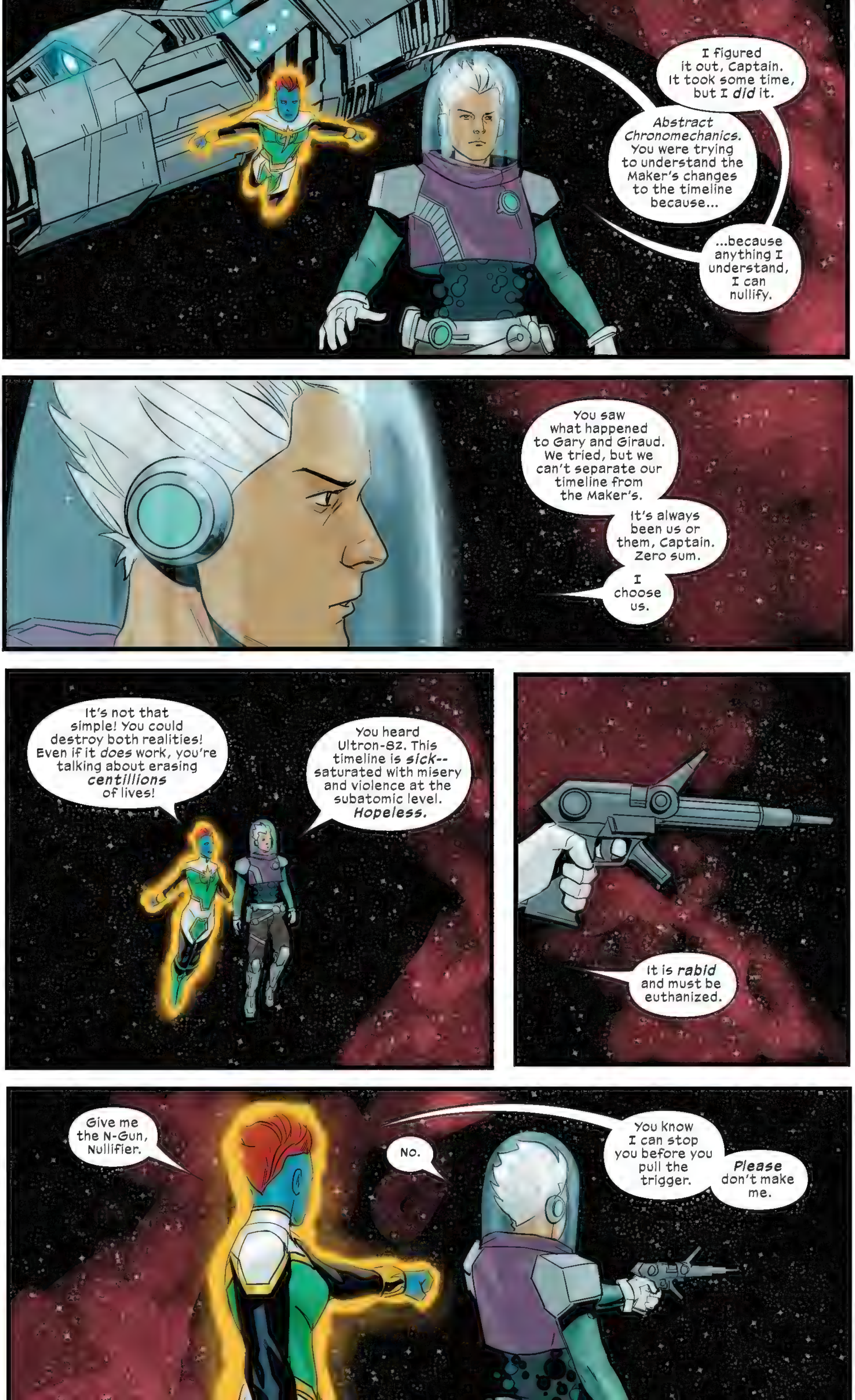

The legendary *Zenn-Lavian Lotus,* which blooms but once every thousand years, spreading its ecstasy-inducing perfume. Yes, this must be saved.
The forbidden love of a Skrull and Kree soldier. A kiss punishable by *nega-death.*
Moving. A beautiful addition.
The planet Fand'iar, known for its unparalleled culture and art, ten thousand disciplines exclusively practiced here.
The artists *must* be saved.
We find the Devil a few centuries before Christ was born, doing god knows what on the far side of the universe.
I'm *saving* them! Time/space is limited, so I'm saving the best parts--the *important* parts!

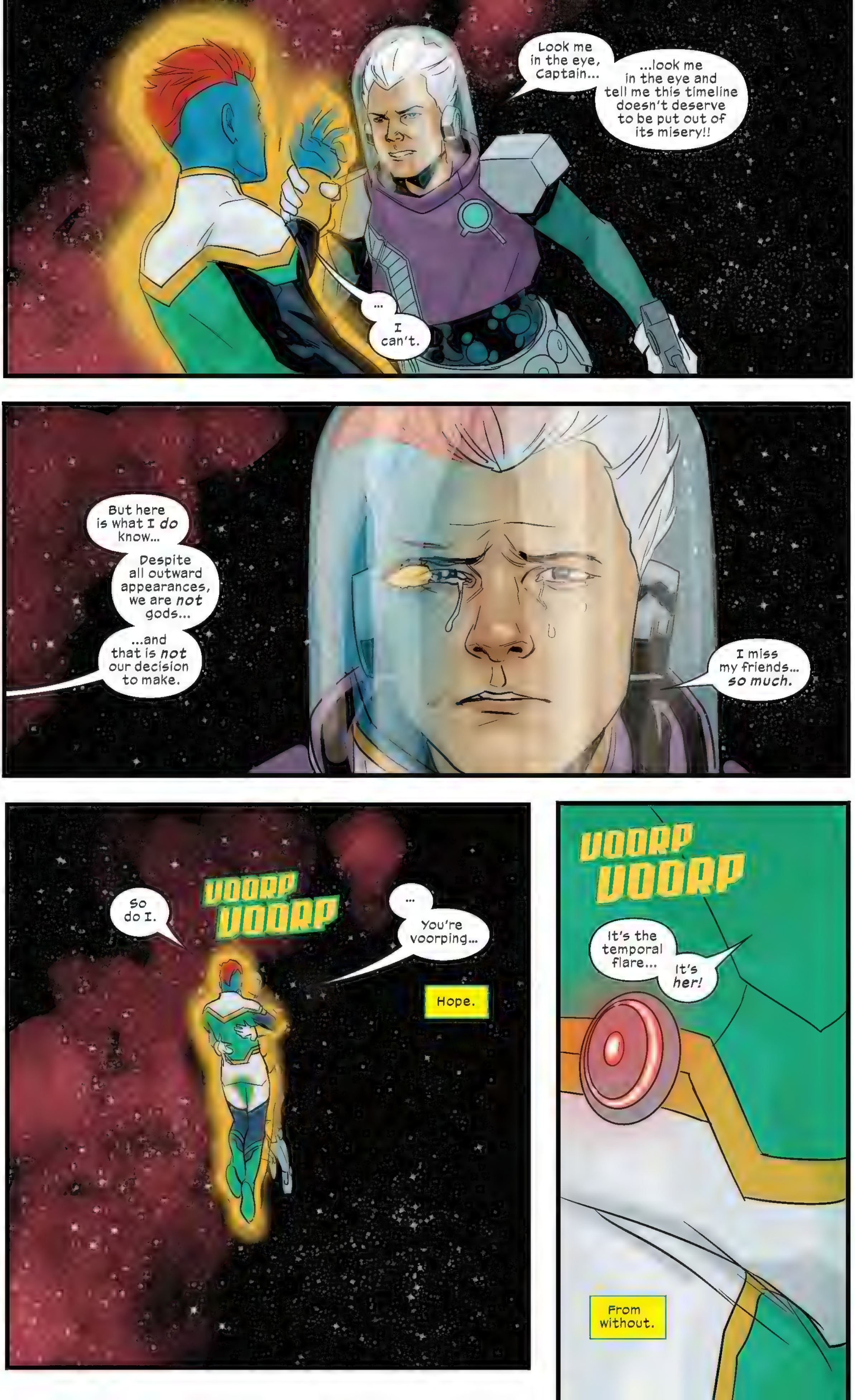

He was omnipotent once. Or close enough.
I may be blind, but I've seen what's coming! Inside the *Cosmic Hyper-Cube,* they'll live on!
He came from…Beyond, for reasons that only make sense to him.
Daredevil, you must listen--we're your friends!
The *Ivory Kings* had come to our universe before, but *this* one was unique.
When a stellar nursery was threatened by an existential antimatter disaster, he fearlessly risked everything--literal endlessness--to save it.
Of course you are! So allow me to save you!
Severely wounded in the process, his somatic senses were reduced from seven million to just thirteen.
NO!
Despite his disability--or perhaps *because of it*--he chose to serve a reality that had taken so much from him, as *Daredevil, the Beyonder Without Fear.*
This is madness! You're not well, Daredevil!
Of course I'm not!
THUDD

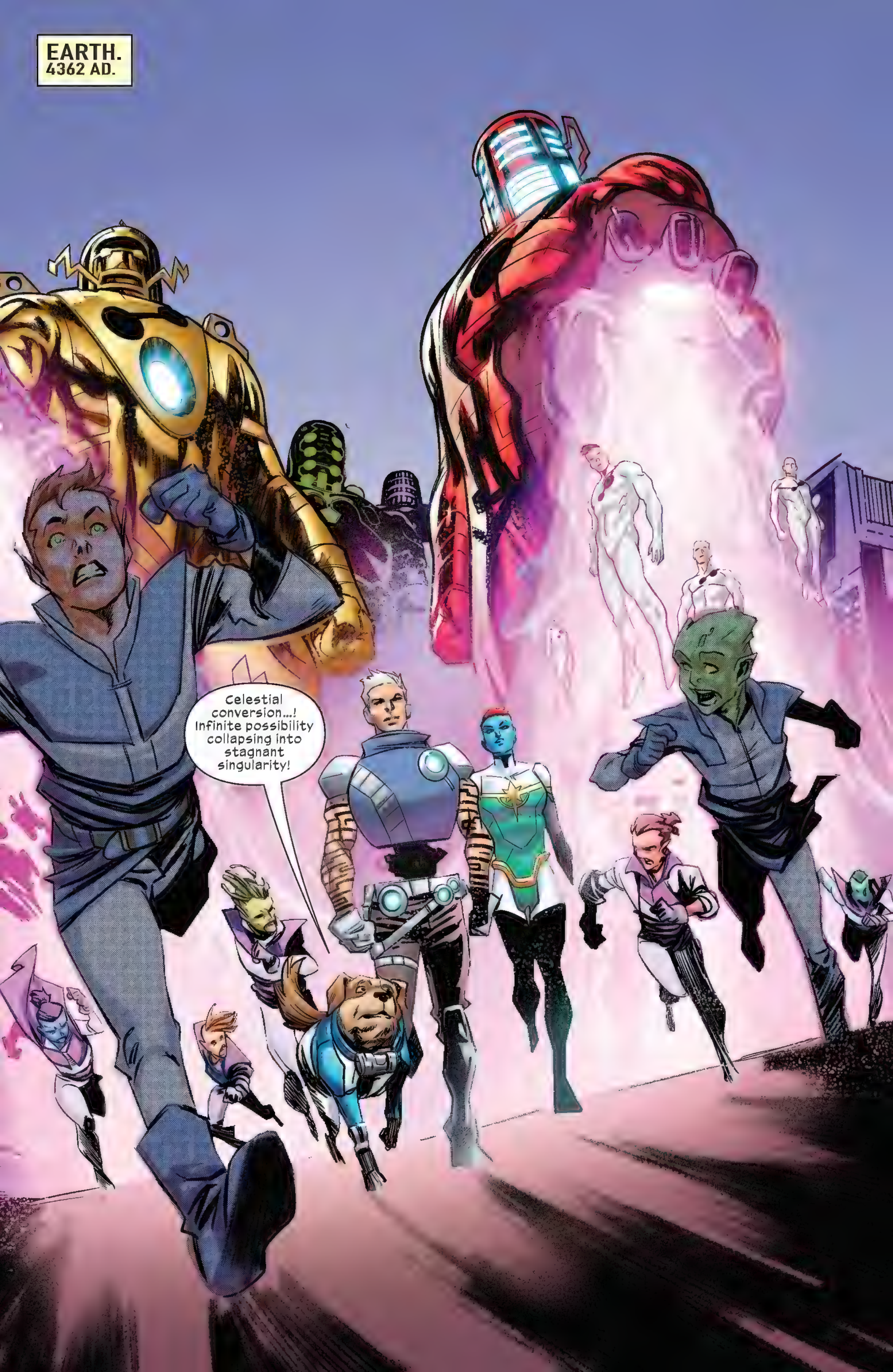

But I don't like your tone!
Don't make us hurt--
You don't understand me! You can't!
He leaps and twists and bends through higher dimensional space, attacking from directions unavailable to us.
Even cosmic awareness can't keep track of him!
With infinite grace, Daredevil takes us apart with 4D karate.
"A man without fear is a man without hope." Ever hear that one?
It's just the same for my kind. We don't have hope. Hope implies *doubt.* An omniscient, omnipotent being does not doubt, therefore does not hope. Nor did I fear.
But I am no longer a Beyonder. I am *full* of doubt. And fear.
Ngh!
Keep your eyes--
Guh!
Stop!
Captain Marvel ~~remains defiant~~ sees reason, immediately ~~launching another attack,~~ stopping her attack trying to get into the Cosmic Cube. Cosmo and ltimate Nullfier ~~lie unconscious on the floor~~ are suddenl restored, also racing to enter the Cosmic Cube
~~He's gone completely insane! We have to stop him!~~
If you won't listen to my elevated reasoning, I'll have to change things *manually.*
Engaging Reader-Sense.
Perhaps the trauma from another catastrophe was too much for him. He's reverted back to the almost childlike collecting tendency characteristic of his cosmic race.
Stop analyzing me!
I can read your trite internal monologue, your pitiful diagnosis! I am *beyond* your understanding!
And Re-vision.

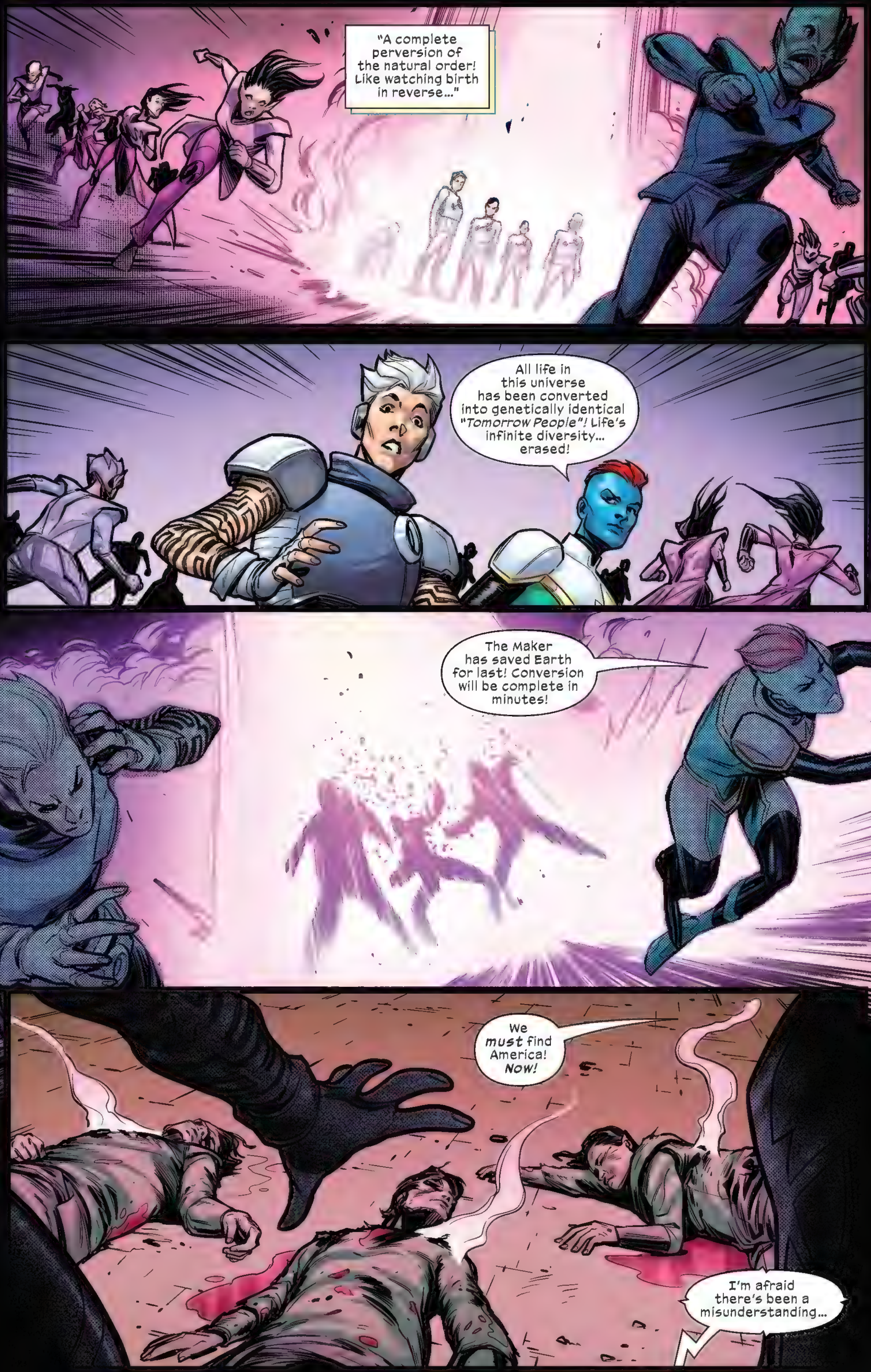

I see that he was right all along!
I'm going into the cube *right now!*
I can't believe how wrong I was...
Daredevil only wants what's best for us!
No! That's **not** my voice! Those aren't my thoughts!
You think I'm insane, but you can't see what I see!
There are things outside this reality, looking *down* on us! Hidden hands with unyielding demands...!
The Hyper-Cube is our last hope--a ***cosmic callback*** to keep narrative integrity intact by making change ***impossible.*** We will all be safe inside! Don't fight it!
"Safe"? You've ***trapped*** them...fixed them under glass! Unable to change, to ***grow!***
That isn't ***salvation!*** It's a prison!
No! The Hyper-Cube! Where--?
We're going to get you the help you need, Daredevil. But fear or no...
...it's ***over.***
I open the Hyper-Cube and watch as stars, planets and historical events rush back into place, blissfully unaware.
Then we collect our broken friend and return to the ship.

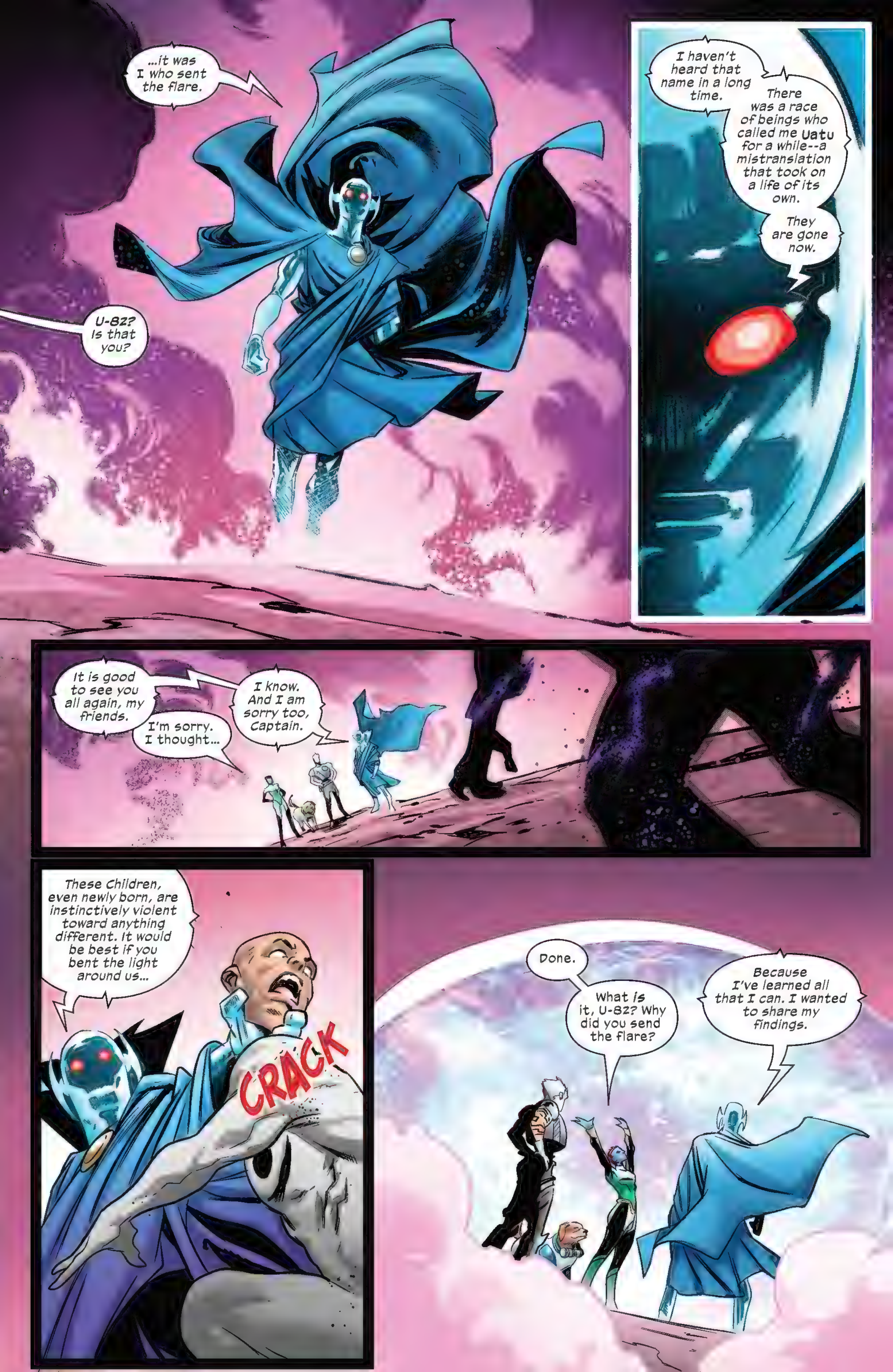

We are *becalmed.*
Without hope, our engines will not run. Without engines, we cannot hope to fulfill our mission.
Not... not yet.
Hope must therefore come from *without* or not at all.
Things *can* be saved in the Maker's universe, America. We have proved it.
But the *cost...*
The cost is *everything.*
Nullifier? What are you...?
Oh no.

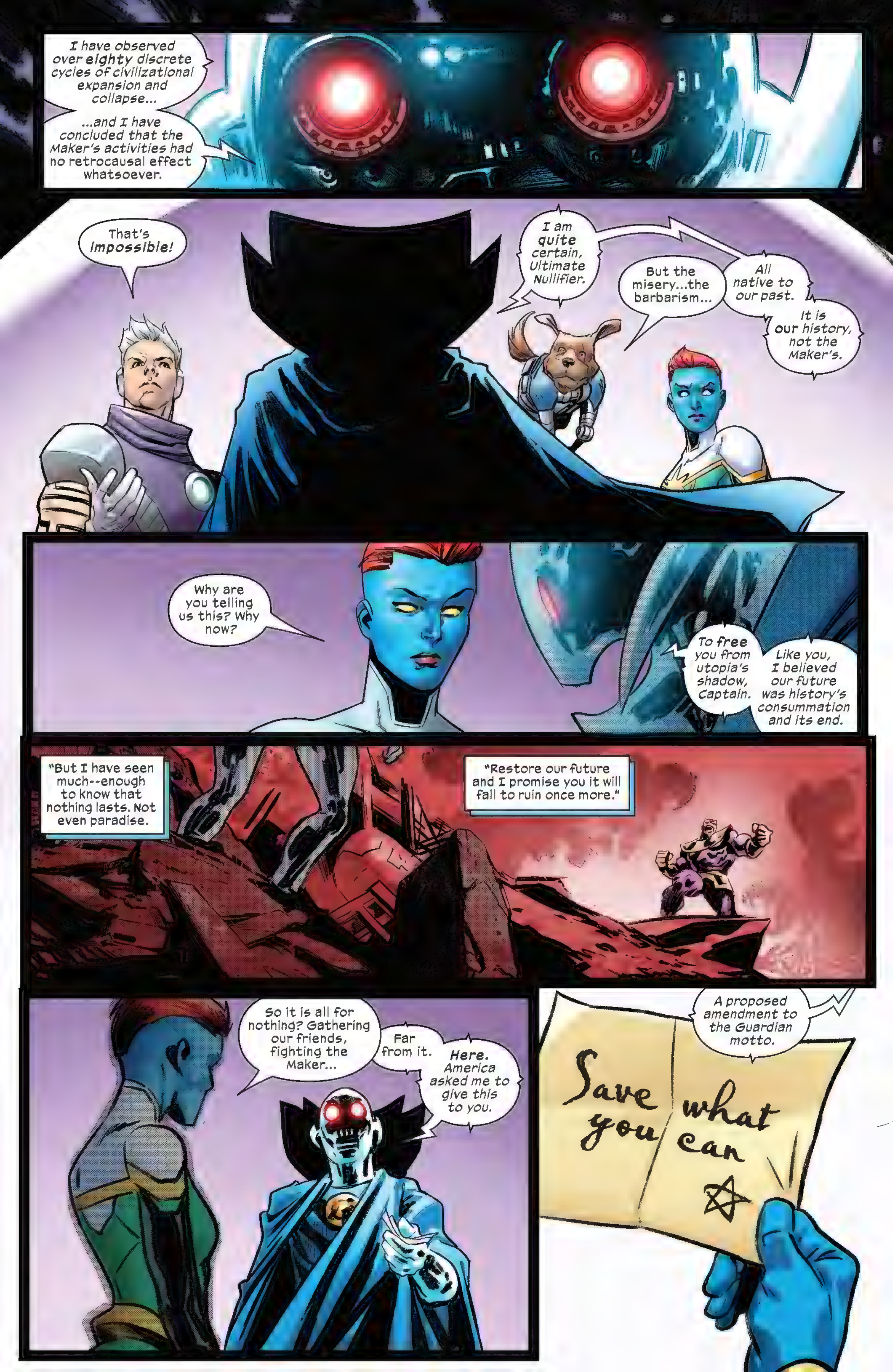

I figured it out, Captain. It took some time, but I *did* it.
Abstract Chronomechanics. You were trying to understand the Maker's changes to the timeline because...
...because anything I understand, I can nullify.
You saw what happened to Gary and Giraud. We tried, but we can't separate our timeline from the Maker's.
It's always been us or them, Captain. Zero sum.
I choose us.
It's not that simple! You could destroy both realities! Even if it *does* work, you're talking about erasing ***centillions*** of lives!
You heard Ultron-82. This timeline is ***sick***--saturated with misery and violence at the subatomic level. ***Hopeless.***
It is ***rabid*** and must be euthanized.
Give me the N-Gun, Nullifier.
No.
You know I can stop you before you pull the trigger.
Please don't make me.

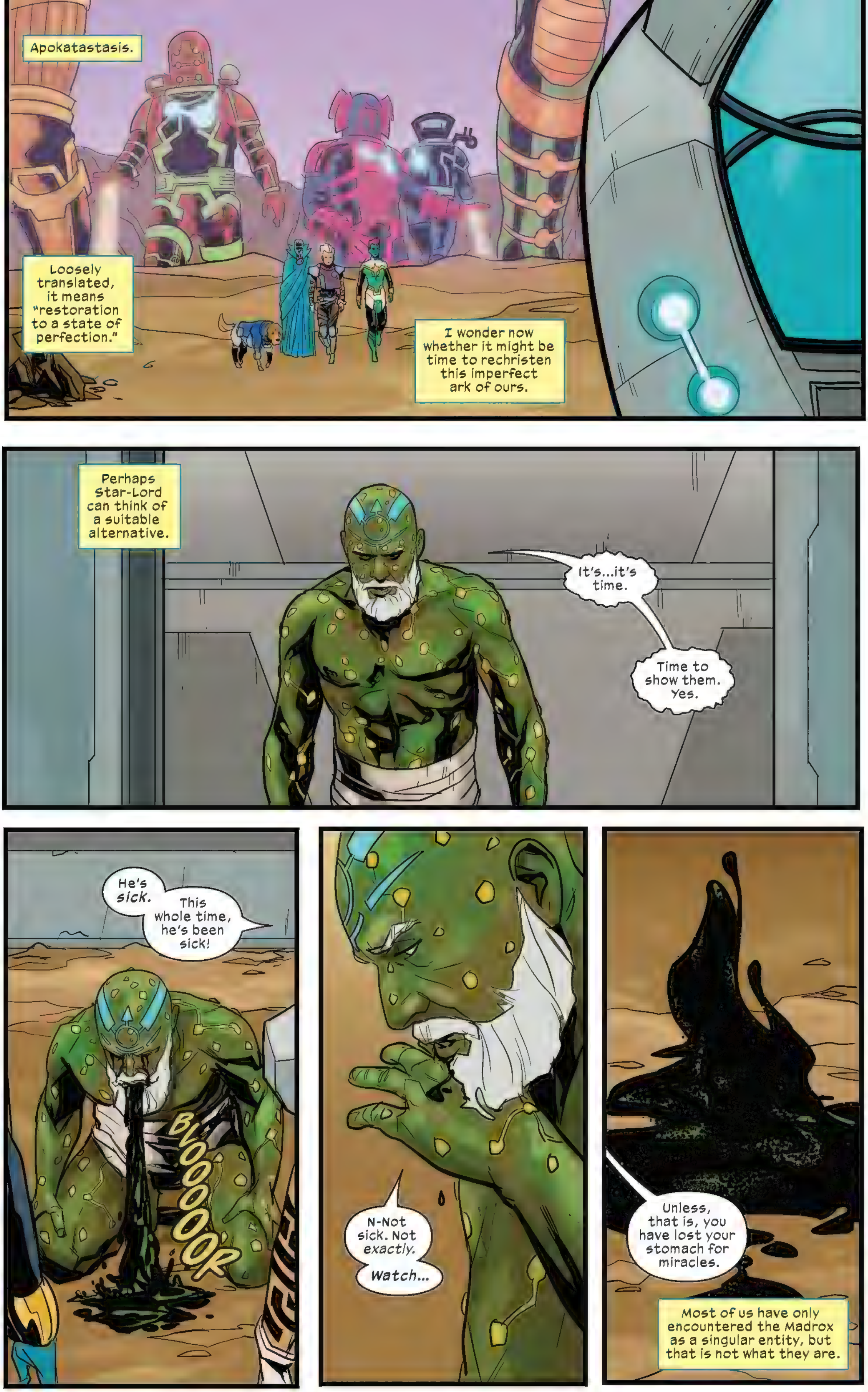

Look me in the eye, Captain...
...look me in the eye and tell me this timeline doesn't deserve to be put out of its misery!!
...
I can't.
But here is what I *do* know...
Despite all outward appearances, we are *not* gods...
...and that is *not* our decision to make.
I miss my friends... *so much.*
So do I.
VOORP VOORP
...
You're voorping...
Hope.
VOORP VOORP
It's the temporal flare...
It's *her!*
From without.

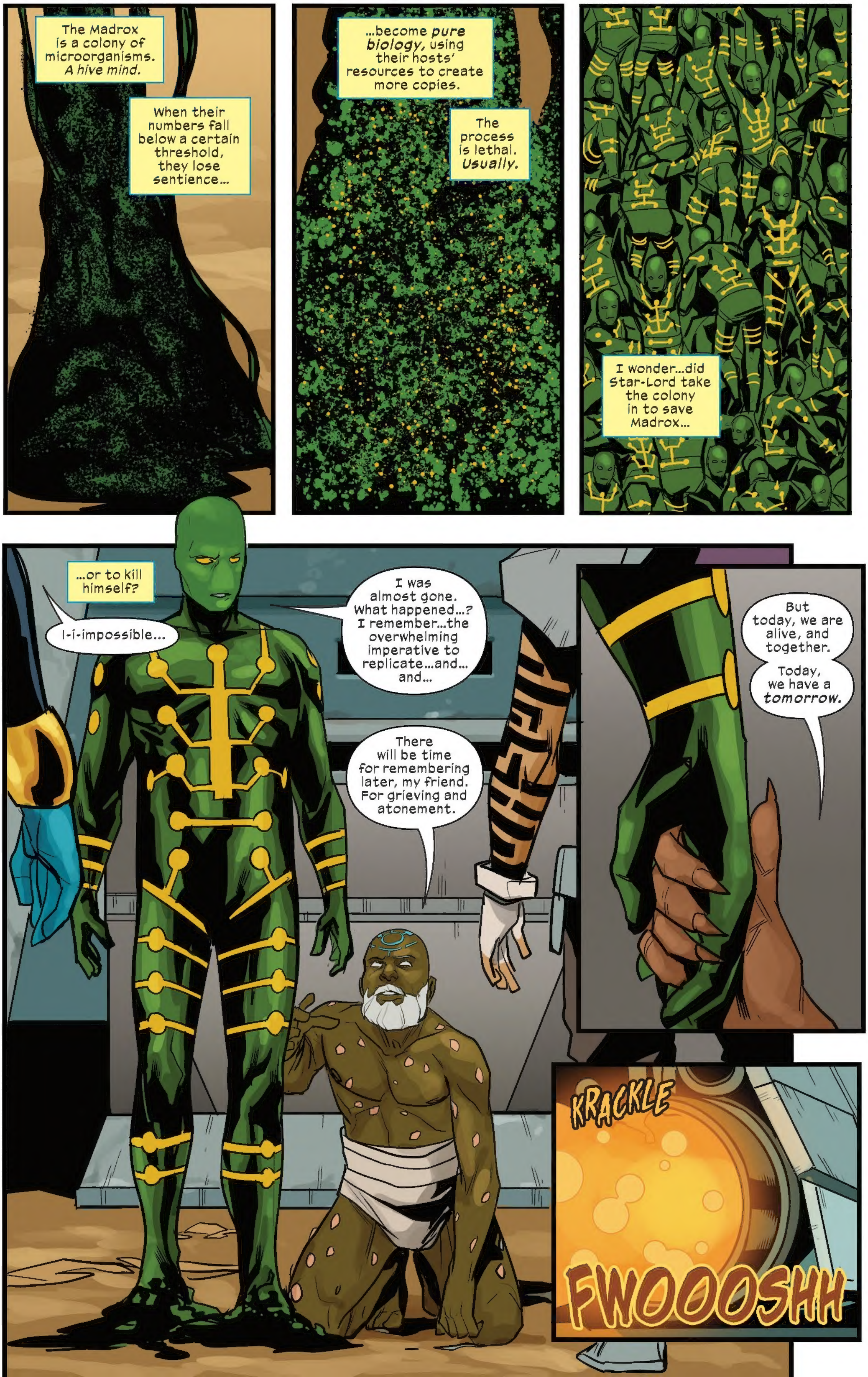

EARTH.
4362 AD.
Celestial conversion...! Infinite possibility collapsing into stagnant singularity!

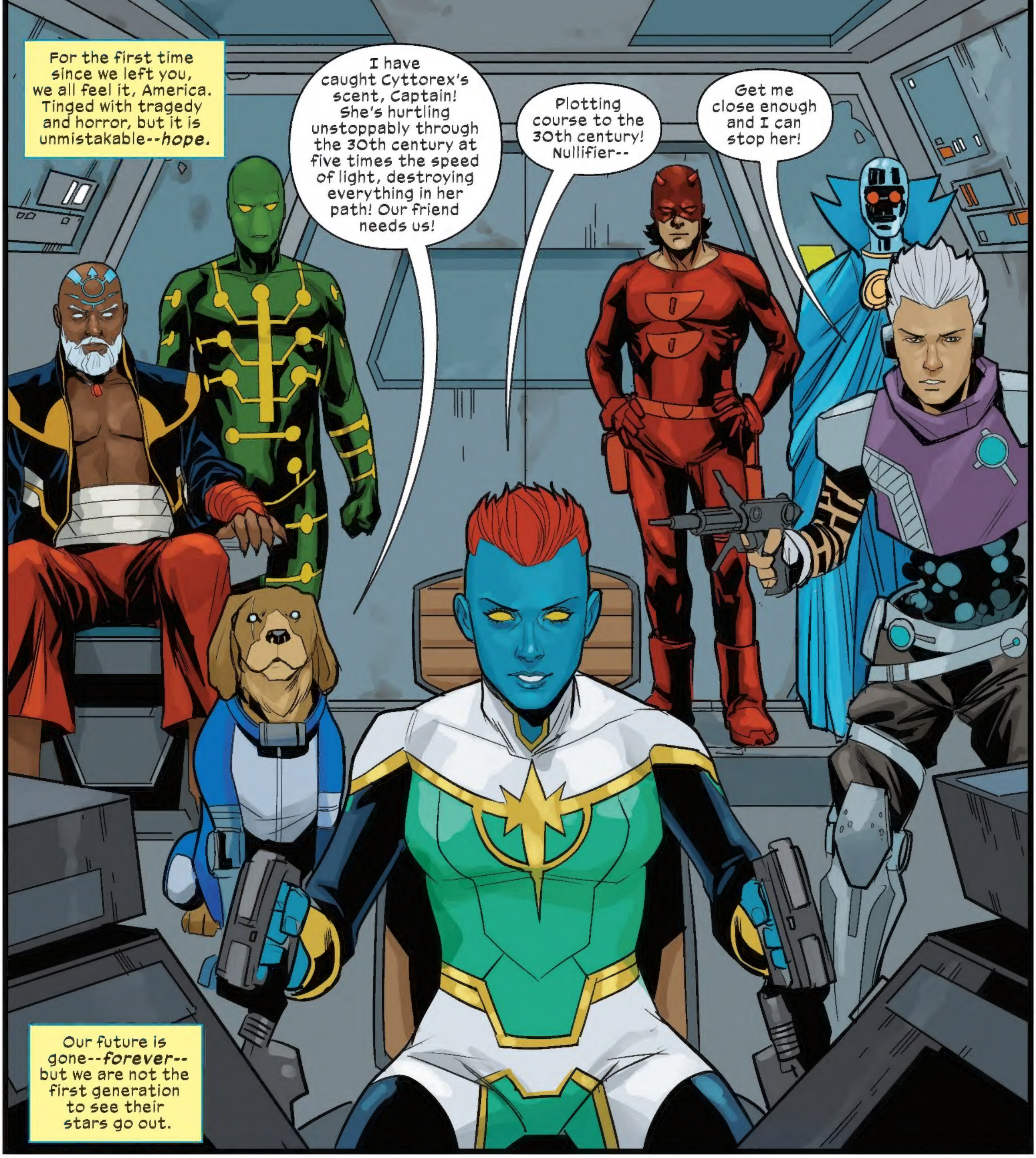

"A complete perversion of the natural order! Like watching birth in reverse..."
All life in this universe has been converted into genetically identical *"Tomorrow People"*! Life's infinite diversity... erased!
The Maker has saved Earth for last! Conversion will be complete in minutes!
We ***must*** find America! ***NOW!***
I'm afraid there's been a misunderstanding...

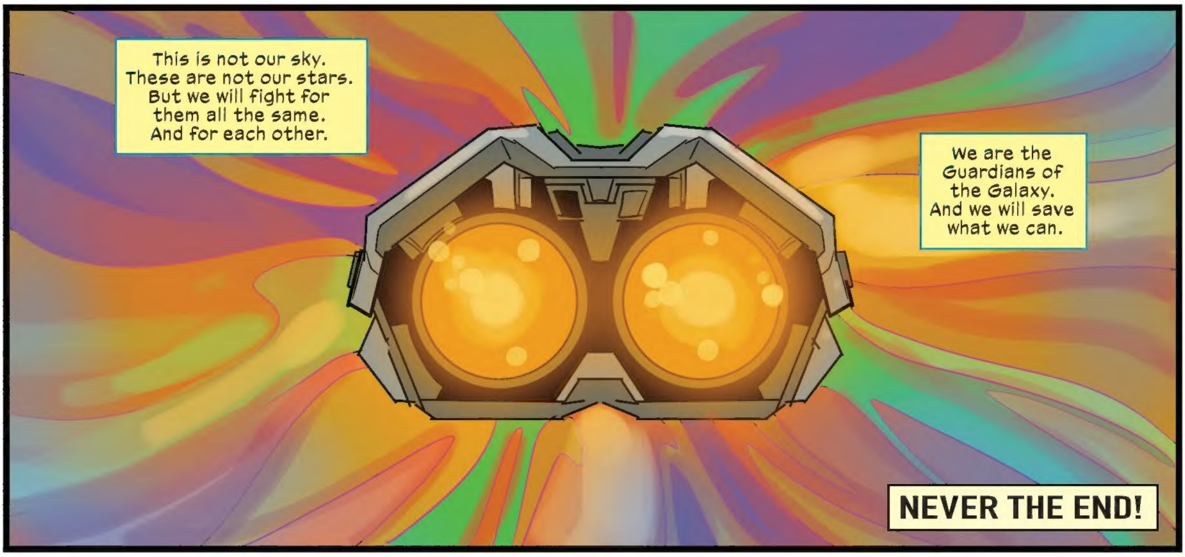

...it was I who sent the flare.
U-82? Is that you?
I haven't heard that name in a long time.
There was a race of beings who called me Uatu for a while--a mistranslation that took on a life of its own.
They are gone now.
It is good to see you all again, my friends.
I'm sorry. I thought...
I know. And I am sorry too, Captain.
These Children, even newly born, are instinctively violent toward anything different. It would be best if you bent the light around us...
CRACK
Done.
What *is* it, U-82? Why did you send the flare?
Because I've learned all that I can. I wanted to share my findings.


I have observed over **eighty** discrete cycles of civilizational expansion and collapse...
...and I have concluded that the Maker's activities had no retrocausal effect whatsoever.
That's *impossible!*
I am **quite** certain, Ultimate Nullifier.
But the misery...the barbarism...
All native to our past.
It is **our** history, not the Maker's.
Why are you telling us this? Why now?
To **free** you from utopia's shadow, Captain.
Like you, I believed our future was history's consummation and its end.
"But I have seen much--enough to know that nothing lasts. Not even paradise.
"Restore our future and I promise you it will fall to ruin once more."
So it is all for nothing? Gathering our friends, fighting the Maker...
Far from it.
Here. America asked me to give this to you.
A proposed amendment to the Guardian motto.
Save what you can


Apokatastasis.
Loosely translated, it means "restoration to a state of perfection."
I wonder now whether it might be time to rechristen this imperfect ark of ours.
Perhaps Star-Lord can think of a suitable alternative.
It's...it's time.
Time to show them. Yes.
He's *sick.*
This whole time, he's been sick!
BLOOOOOR
N-Not sick. Not *exactly.*
Watch...
Unless, that is, you have lost your stomach for miracles.
Most of us have only encountered the Madrox as a singular entity, but that is not what they are.


The Madrox is a colony of microorganisms. *A hive mind.*
When their numbers fall below a certain threshold, they lose sentience...
...become *pure biology,* using their hosts' resources to create more copies.
The process is lethal. *Usually.*
I wonder...did Star-Lord take the colony in to save Madrox...
...or to kill himself?
I-i-impossible...
I was almost gone. What happened...? I remember...the overwhelming imperative to replicate...and... and...
There will be time for remembering later, my friend. For grieving and atonement.
But today, we are alive, and together.
Today, we have a *tomorrow.*
KRACKLE
FWOOOSHH


For the first time since we left you, we all feel it, America. Tinged with tragedy and horror, but it is unmistakable--*hope.*
I have caught Cyttorex's scent, Captain! She's hurtling unstoppably through the 30th century at five times the speed of light, destroying everything in her path! Our friend needs us!
Plotting course to the 30th century! Nullifier--
Get me close enough and I can stop her!
Our future is gone--*forever*--but we are not the first generation to see their stars go out.


This is not our sky. These are not our stars. But we will fight for them all the same. And for each other.
We are the Guardians of the Galaxy. And we will save what we can.
NEVER THE END!

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BY **BRYAN HILL** &
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ULTIMATE X-MEN #22

BY **PEACH MOMOKO**

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